Core Module 22

Hong Kong Government and I Foundation part: Decision-making Process and Development of Electoral System

- What are the channels and opportunities available for stakeholders to participate in socio-political issues?
- What are the views of society regarding selection of the Chief Executive and the election of all the members of the Legislative Council by universal suffrage?
According to the preamble of the Basic Law, the principle of “one country, two systems” is implemented in Hong Kong. The Basic Law has been enacted to prescribe the systems to be practised in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) to ensure the implementation of the basic policies of the People's Republic of China (PRC) regarding Hong Kong. How much do you know about “one country, two systems”?

1. Which basic idea regarding the governance of Hong Kong is related to each of the following description?

"Hong Kong people governing Hong Kong"

The principal officials of the executive authorities shall be permanent residents of Hong Kong.

"A high degree of autonomy"

Hong Kong enjoys executive, legislative and independent judicial power, including that of final adjudication.

"Remain unchanged for 50 years"

The socialist system and policies shall not be practised in the HKSAR, and the previous capitalist system and way of life shall remain unchanged for 50 years.
2. If “one country, one system” is implemented in Hong Kong, i.e. the system on the mainland is implemented in Hong Kong, what would be the changes in our daily life? Write down your views in respect of the following aspects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economy</th>
<th>The socialist economic system will be implemented in Hong Kong. The Central People’s Government will assume a greater role in economic planning for the local economy and develop various plans for economic development. (Any reasonable and relevant answers are acceptable.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Politics</td>
<td>The political system led by the Communist Party of China will be implemented in Hong Kong, and the Communist Party of China will be the ruling party in Hong Kong. (Any reasonable and relevant answers are acceptable.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Society</td>
<td>Various social systems (e.g. family planning policy and household registration policy) will be implemented in Hong Kong. (Any reasonable and relevant answers are acceptable.)</td>
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**Knowledge Content: The principle of “one country, two systems”**

According to the preamble of the Basic Law, the principle of “one country, two systems" is implemented in Hong Kong. The Basic Law has been enacted to prescribe the systems to be practised in the HKSAR to ensure the implementation of the basic policies of the PRC regarding Hong Kong.

Under “one country, two systems”, the basic ideas of “Hong Kong people governing Hong Kong”, “a high degree of autonomy” and “remain unchanged for 50 years” are implemented in Hong Kong. “Hong Kong people governing Hong Kong” means that the Chief Executive, principal officials of the executive authorities and members of the Legislative Council shall be permanent residents of the HKSAR; “a high degree of autonomy” means that Hong Kong enjoys executive, legislative and independent judicial power, including that of final adjudication; “remain unchanged for 50 years” means that the socialist system and policies shall not be practised in the HKSAR, and the previous capitalist system and way of life shall remain unchanged for 50 years.
According to the Basic Law, the HKSAR shall be a local administrative region of the PRC, which shall enjoy a high degree of autonomy and come directly under the Central People's Government. Meanwhile, the Central People's Government shall be responsible for the following affairs relating to the HKSAR in accordance with the principle of state sovereignty:
1) foreign affairs;
2) defence; and
3) appointment of the principal officials of HKSAR Government.
The power of amendment of the Basic Law shall be vested in the National People's Congress, while the power of interpretation of the Basic Law shall be vested in the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

Source: The Basic Law of HKSAR of the PRC

1. With reference to Source 1 and to your knowledge, can the HKSAR Government formulate policies or participate in the following cases on its own? Put a “ ✓ ” to indicate the case that HKSAR Government can formulate policies or participate on its own.

Bidding to host international games (e.g. the Asian Games)

Formulate policies or participate on its own:

Establishing embassies in other countries

Formulate policies or participate on its own:
Sending Hong Kong police officers to help pacify clashes in Libya
Formulate policies or participate on its own:

Allowing U.S. battleships to enter Hong Kong for friendly visit and supplies
Formulate policies or participate on its own:

Appointing Chief Executive (CE) of the HKSAR
Formulate policies or participate on its own:
Source: http://www.ceo.gov.hk

Setting a lower rate of profits tax to attract investments from multinational corporations
Formulate policies or participate on its own:

Allowing citizens to vote for District Councillors who listen to the needs of citizens
Formulate policies or participate on its own:

Amending the content of the Basic Law in accordance with the actual needs of Hong Kong
Formulate policies or participate on its own:
2. Summarize the findings of the analysis. Do you think the Central Authorities will take a full control on the activities regarding the HKSAR? What are the conditions Hong Kong is subject to when it may on its own maintain and develop relations and conclude and implement agreements with foreign states and regions and relevant international organizations?

No. It is because the Central Authorities has to maintain the principle and basic ideas prescribed in the Basic Law, including “one country, two systems”, “Hong Kong people governing Hong Kong” and “a high degree of autonomy” so that Hong Kong may enjoy a high degree of autonomy. Hong Kong may on its own, using the name “Hong Kong, China”, maintain and develop relations and conclude and implement agreements with foreign states and regions and relevant international organizations in the appropriate fields, including the economic, trade, financial and monetary, shipping, communications, tourism, cultural and sports fields.

3. Why shall the Central People’s Government be responsible for the defence of the HKSAR?

The Central People’s Government shall be responsible for the defence of Hong Kong in order to manifest the exercise of sovereignty by the state.

Knowledge Content: The relationship between the Central Authorities and HKSAR as explained in the Basic Law

According to the Basic Law, Hong Kong shall be a local administrative region which shall enjoy a high degree of autonomy. The HKSAR shall enjoy executive, legislative and independent judicial power, including that of final adjudication. The laws in force in the HKSAR shall be the laws previously in force in Hong Kong that do not contravene the Basic Law and the laws enacted by the legislature of the HKSAR. National laws shall not be applied in the HKSAR except for those listed in Annex III to the Basic Law.
The Central People’s Government shall be responsible for the defence, foreign affairs and appointment of the Chief Executive and principal officials of executive authorities which manifest the exercise of sovereignty by the state. In addition, the powers of interpretation and amendment of the Basic Law shall be vested in the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and the National People's Congress respectively which also manifest the exercise of sovereignty by the state.

Hong Kong has been part of the territory of China since ancient times; it was occupied by Britain after the Opium War in 1840. On 19 December 1984, the Chinese and British Governments signed the Joint Declaration on the Question of Hong Kong, affirming that the Government of the People's Republic of China will resume the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong with effect from 1 July 1997, thus fulfilling the long-cherished common aspiration of the Chinese people for the recovery of Hong Kong.

Upholding national unity and territorial integrity, maintaining the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong, and taking account of its history and realities, the People's Republic of China has decided that upon China's resumption of the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong, a Hong Kong Special Administrative Region will be established in accordance with the provisions of Article 31 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China, and that under the principle of "one country, two systems", the socialist system and policies will not be practised in Hong Kong. The basic policies of the People's Republic of China regarding Hong Kong have been elaborated by the Chinese Government in the Sino-British Joint Declaration.

In accordance with the Constitution of the People's Republic of China, the National People's Congress hereby enacts the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, prescribing the systems to be practised in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, in order to ensure the implementation of the basic policies of the People's Republic of China regarding Hong Kong.

Source: The Preamble of the Basic Law
One of the functions of the HKSAR Government is to formulate appropriate policies to address the needs of the general public. What are the things that the HKSAR Government can do to ensure that the policies decided can address the needs of most people during the process from planning to implementation of these policies?

**Knowledge Content: Decision-making process of the government**

The decision-making process of the HKSAR Government includes input, decisions, output and feedback. The four parts form the cycle of the process. This analytical framework of public policy is based on the system theory.

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Environment

Input -> Political System -> Output

Feedback
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Policy input means the policy demanded and related information. Before making a decision, the government will identify people’s needs and collect relevant information from the community so that it can delineate the possible ways to respond to public needs. Such policy input will enter the political system which includes the structure, processes and decision-makers of the executive authorities and the legislature. The political system can arrange the priority and feasibility of different policies in accordance with the policy environment and needs and thus decide the best policy. Output means the government makes decisions and implements policies to respond to the public needs. Feedback means the influence caused by the general public and relevant organizations/groups on the policy environment and policy input as well as the development of public policies in the next stage after the implementation of the policy.
The Hong Kong Government has planned the environmental levy on plastic shopping bags since 2006 and put it into effect in July 2009. Are the four parts (input, decisions, output and feedback) involved throughout the whole decision-making process? Read the following article and discuss the following questions.

Worksheet 2: The decision-making process of the HKSAR Government

Background
More than eight billion plastic shopping bags have been dumped in landfill sites every year. In other words, a person disposes of 3 plastic shopping bags a day.

Proposals
1. Introduce an environmental levy of 50 cents on each plastic shopping bag at the retail level, with the first phase covering about 3,000 stores, which include chain or large supermarkets, convenience stores and personal health and beauty product stores.
2. Promotion of voluntary schemes of reducing the use of plastic shopping bags by retail shops.
3. Prohibiting the use of plastic shopping bags.

Final Policy
Proposal 1 has been adopted.

Effects of the policy
The use of plastic shopping bags in the 3,000 stores where the levy is applicable has dropped from 600 million to 100 million, representing a drop of nearly 90%.

Proposal for the second phase
Extend this levy to cover 60,000 retail shops in Hong Kong.

Source 1: An extract of consultation on the environmental levy on plastic shopping bags
The plastic shopping bags distributed in the registered retailers has dropped by nearly 90% since the implementation of the environmental levy on plastic shopping bags in July 2009, suggesting that the policy received widespread support among the general public. In 2011, the Government will hold a 3-month public consultation on ways of extending the environmental levy on plastic shopping bags. The consultation will be held from 16th May 2011 to 16th August 2011.

Source: Summarising the reports of various newspapers, 2011.

1. Apply the systems theory to analyze the decision-making process of the government for the environmental levy on plastic shopping bags as mentioned in Sources 1 and 2. Fill the information related to “input”, “political system”, “output” and “feedback” in the appropriate boxes below.

   **Input:**
   More than eight billion plastic bags have been dumped in landfill sites every year. (Next phase: extend the scheme to cover more stores.)

   **Political System:**
   Turn the policy input into Proposals 1, 2 and 3 and make the decision.

   **Output:**
   Proposal 1

   **Feedback:**
   The use of plastic bags has dropped from 600 million by nearly 90% to 100 million among the 3,000 registered retailers.
2. The government will hold a public consultation for the environmental levy on plastic shopping bags. Why is it important for the government to do so?

   By doing so, the government may have a better understanding of the needs of the general public and their responses to the policy so that the policy can address the needs of the community and reduce the negative impact caused by the new policy to the community.

3. “The government should be active in seeking opinions of professionals, not the general public.” Do you agree? Explain your answer.

   Agree. It is because professionals can provide in-depth ideas and opinions from their sectors and reflect important views on various issues.

   Disagree. Some professionals or sectors may place emphasis on their interests than that of the general public. The government should hold a public consultation to seek the opinions of the general public if a policy would impact on the general public.
**Worksheet 3: Methods for the selection of the Chief Executive and the formation of the Legislative Council**

**Source 1:** Methods for the selection of the CE and the formation of the Legislative Council (LegCo)

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**Method for the selection of the CE:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of members of the Election Committee / the Selection Committee</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composition of the Election Committee / the Selection Committee</td>
<td>100 members from each of the four sectors (1. Industrial, commercial and financial sectors; 2. The professions; 3. Labour, social services, religious and other sectors; 4. Political sector).</td>
<td>200 members for each of the four sectors.</td>
<td>Increase by 100 from the 200 members to 300 for each of the four sectors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The arrangements for nominating candidates for the office of the CE</td>
<td>Each candidate should have not less than 50 nominations from members of the Selection Committee.</td>
<td>Each candidate should have nominations of not less than 1/8 of the total members of Election Committee, i.e. 100 members.</td>
<td>The original nomination threshold remained unchanged and each candidate should have nominations of not less than 1/8 of the total members, i.e. 150 members.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Method for the formation of the LegCo:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Number of Seats in the LegCo</th>
<th>1998</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20 seats for geographical constituencies, 30 seats for functional constituencies and 10 seats for the Election Committee, i.e. 60 seats in total.</td>
<td>30 seats for each of the functional constituencies and geographical constituencies, i.e. 60 seats in total.</td>
<td>The total number of seats increased from 60 to 70, with 35 seats for each of the functional constituencies and geographical constituencies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The electorate base of the geographical constituencies (GCs)</td>
<td>The total number of voters in the 5 geographical constituencies is 2,795,371.</td>
<td>The total number of voters in the 5 geographical constituencies is 3,372,007.</td>
<td>There are 3,560,535 registered voters in 2011.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The electorate base of the functional constituencies (FCs)</td>
<td>The total number of voters in the 28 functional constituencies is 198,984.</td>
<td>The total number of voters in the 28 functional constituencies is 229,861.</td>
<td>5 new seats of District Council (second) functional constituency were added. Voters are those from GCs who have not registered in the original 28 FCs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: Annexes I and II of the Basic Law; the Legislative Council (Amendment) Ordinance 2011

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**Source 2:** The functional constituencies of the third-term LegCO (2004-2008)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heung Yee Kuk</th>
<th>Architectural, Surveying and Planning</th>
<th>Sports, Performing Arts, Culture and Publication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture and Fisheries</td>
<td>Social welfare</td>
<td>Import and Export</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>Real Estate and Construction</td>
<td>Textile and Garment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>Tourism</td>
<td>Wholesale and Retail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Commercial (First)</td>
<td>Information Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal</td>
<td>Commercial (Second)</td>
<td>Catering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accountancy</td>
<td>Industrial (First)</td>
<td>District Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical</td>
<td>Industrial (Second)</td>
<td>Labour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Services</td>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: LegCo
Opinions and voices of different people in respect of the methods for selecting the CE and forming the LegCo

I think that it is a basic human right for citizens to choose their government through democratic elections. It can also help the government to build a strong public opinion base for effective implementation of policies. I support the implementation of elections of the CE and of all members of the LegCo by universal suffrage as soon as possible.

I think we should develop the methods for selecting the CE and forming the LegCo step by step and in the context of Hong Kong for the stable political and economic development of Hong Kong.

I think the functional constituencies in LegCo should be retained so that professionals can express their opinions in LegCo and provide professional opinions to help the government in formulating policies.

I think the functional constituencies in LegCo should be abolished because the number of voters of these constituencies is much less than that of the geographical constituencies, which means they have lower legitimacy. In addition, they should be abolished as voters of functional constituencies enjoy the privilege of having two votes.
1. According to Source 1, what were the changes in the methods for selecting the CE and forming the LegCo since 1997?

The selection of the CE: the number of members of the Election Committee increased but the nomination threshold remained unchanged.

LegCo: the number of members increased; the number of seats for Election Committee was gradually abolished when the number of seats of GCs had gradually increased to make it equal to the number of seats of FCs. Lately, five seats for District Council (second) functional constituency were added to the FCs in 2012 to increase the number of voters.

2. The Election Committee, which is responsible for nominating and electing the CE, consists of four sectors: 1. Industrial, commercial and financial sectors; 2. The professions; 3. Labour, social services, religious and other sectors; and 4. Political sector. What are the features of these sectors that make them responsible for nominating and electing the Chief Executive?

These sectors represent the important parts of different social sectors of Hong Kong. Accordingly, they are broadly representative in nominating and electing the Chief Executive.

3. Do you think the selection of the Chief Executive and the formation of the Legislative Council by universal suffrage is important for the development of Hong Kong? Why?

Yes. It is important to do so in accordance with the principle of “Hong Kong people governing Hong Kong” and “a high degree of autonomy”. It is in line with the arrangement of the Basic Law. Besides, the selection of the Chief Executive and the formation of the Legislative Council by universal suffrage are in line with the principle of political equality, which is conducive to social development of Hong Kong. Currently, the principle of "universality" and "equality" can be found in the method for electing members of LegCo from GCs. The electoral development of Hong Kong should be fully in line with the principle of "universality" and "equality".
4. Some people think that “Retaining the FCs in the LegCo can help the Government to listen to the opinions of different social sectors.” Do you agree? Share your opinion.

Yes. The FCs are groups that should be consulted so that their opinions can be expressed in the LegCo in order to achieve “balanced participation”. These important groups can provide professional opinions for the government.

No. The government can listen to the opinions of different sectors without establishing the FCs. FCs may place too much emphasis on their own benefits than those of the general public.

(Any reasonable and relevant answers are acceptable.)

Method for Selecting the CE and its Development

Article 45 of the Basic Law stipulated that “The method for selecting the Chief Executive shall be specified in the light of the actual situation in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and in accordance with the principle of gradual and orderly progress. The ultimate aim is the selection of the Chief Executive by universal suffrage upon nomination by a broadly representative nominating committee in accordance with democratic procedures.” The first CE was elected by the 400 members of the Selection Committee. In 2012, the number of members of the Election Committee increased from 800 to 1,200, when the candidate should have 150 nominations from the members of Election Committee and could be elected as the CE only if s/he obtains votes of more than a half of the total number of members in the Committee (i.e. 600 people). According to the decision on the issues relating to universal suffrage made by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, the CE of the HKSAR can be elected by universal suffrage in 2017.

Method for Forming the LegCo and its Development

The Article 68 of the Basic Law stipulated that “The method for forming the Legislative Council shall be specified in the light of the actual situation in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
and in accordance with the principle of gradual and orderly progress. The ultimate aim is the election of all the members of the Legislative Council by universal suffrage.” The first LegCo consisted of 60 seats, with 20 of them were returned from GCs through direct election, 10 of them from Election Committee and 30 of them from FCs. In 2012, 70 Councillors were elected to the fifth LegCo, in which 35 of them were returned from GCs through direct election and 35 of them from FCs. According to the decision on the issues relating to universal suffrage made by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, all the members of LegCo can be elected by universal suffrage in 2017.

According to the Second Report of the Constitutional Task Force, four principles on constitutional development have to be taken into account, namely, meeting the interests of different sectors of society, facilitating the development of the capitalist economy, gradual and orderly progress, and being appropriate to the actual situation in Hong Kong. When developing the methods for selecting the CE and forming the LegCo, these four principles could be considered.

Think About It

What are the considerations other than the four principles in deciding the methods for selecting the CE and the forming of LegCo?

Ways of thinking: Is there any other principle (e.g. equality and justice)?

(Any reasonable and relevant answers are acceptable.)
1. Why did the citizens join procession and urge for selecting the CE and forming the LegCo by universal suffrage?

It is because the citizens believe that their rights to elect their own CE and all the members of LegCo provided in the Basic Law have not yet realized. Therefore, they join procession as an effort to fight for their political rights they should enjoy.
2. If you can choose, do you prefer the current method or the “one person, one vote” system in electing the CE? Share your opinions.

Current method: Currently, the method for selecting the CE is an indirect one. The Election Committee is broadly representative as it reflects opinions of different groups and this minimizes the risk of the “tyranny of the majority”.

The “one person, one vote” system: It can realize the principle of political equality for the general public. Participating equally can help the community to reach consensus and the methods for selecting the CE would become more acceptable to the public. In turn, it can enhance the legitimacy of the whole political system.

(Any reasonable and relevant answers are acceptable.)

Meanings, importance and influences of heading towards the selection of the CE and the election of all the members of the LegCo by universal suffrage to social development and progress of democracy in Hong Kong

The selection of the CE and the election of all the members of the LegCo by universal suffrage are important milestones for the HKSAR to realize the principle of “Hong Kong people governing Hong Kong” and “a high degree of autonomy”. Before reunification, the LegCo introduced the Electoral College and functional constituencies in 1985 to elect councillors indirectly. When members returned by geographical constituencies through direct elections were introduced in 1991, the legislature of Hong Kong gradually became more democratic.

Now citizens can supervise the implementation of policies and operations of financial measures by the government through Legislative Councillors returned by GCs through direct elections as well as those returned by FCs. The Legislative Councillors, being the representative of the voters, will participate in legislative work, scrutinize bills and even introduce bills.
Through a democratic system, citizens may select their representatives regularly in competitive elections in order to supervise the government in its policy implementation as well as to influence the policy directions. The citizens may change their representatives through elections if they find the representatives are disappointing. It can avoid political turmoil caused by the change in political parties or citizens’ representatives. It is not necessary to overthrow representatives of the legislature by non-institutional or violent means as the citizens may select their representatives through an institutional electoral arrangement. It can help stabilize the political system. Besides, democratic election based on the “one person, one vote” system can realize equal political rights. Everyone would have the right to vote and to the right to stand for election. The citizens can search for the best governance through open political debates. It can promote social fairness and justice.

Therefore, heading towards the election of the CE and all the members of the LegCo by universal suffrage can realize the principles of “Hong Kong people governing Hong Kong” and “a high degree of autonomy”. It can also lay the foundation for the development of a better community with fairness and justice. In contrast, some people think that political development cannot be rushed. It should be done in a gradual manner with people from all walks of life have to be consulted. Universal suffrage should be a result agreed by consensus. It is because social instability may arise from a lack of consensus in the community and social development can be adversely affected.

The Green Paper published by the Hong Kong Government in 1984 indicated the start of constitutional development in Hong Kong. In 1985, the Legislative Council was formed through election rather than solely appointed by the government or selected from the official members of the Executive Council, while it was the first time to introduce the seats for the Electoral College and functional constituencies. In 1995, all Legislative Councillors were elected from different constituencies when the seats for appointed members were abolished. Throughout the constitutional development, various electoral methods for seats returned by GCs through direct elections had been tried, for example, the “double-seat, double vote” system and the “single-seat, single vote” system. Currently, the list system of proportional representation is being adopted.
According to the 2011 Corruption Perceptions Index published by the Transparency International, a global corruption watchdog, Hong Kong ranked 12th in the world and ranked second after Singapore in Asia.

Hong Kong underwent rapid social and economic development in the 1960s and 70s. However, corruption in government authorities was rampant and people suffered most. They were angry but they could not do anything about that. Accordingly, the Hong Kong Government decided to establish an independent anti-corruption organization. The Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) was established in February 1974. Since inception, ICAC has embraced a three-pronged approach of law enforcement, prevention and community education to fight corruption.

In 2009, a former Shatin District Councillor who participated in the Sha Tin District Council By-election (Tai Wai Constituency) attempted to influence the result of the election indirectly by spending over two million dollars for providing benefits to the voters, including holding banquets, organizing inexpensive local day trips, handing out cash coupons and providing free vaccinations for flu.

The former Councillor was sentenced to 21-month imprisonment for corrupt collusion and other offences.

In order to ensure that each candidate contesting in LegCo or District Council elections is treated equally, the Electoral Affairs Commission ("EAC") requires the television stations and radio broadcasting companies to comply with the “equal time” principle which means equal time for each of the candidates contesting in the same constituency. After revision, the principle is also applicable to TV or radio programmes broadcast on the internet in response to the rise of online media.
1. Based on Source 1 and to your knowledge, is Hong Kong one of the places with low level of corruption? Explain your answer.

Yes. It is because Hong Kong ranked 12th in the world and 2nd in Asia in the 2011 Corruption Perceptions Index. Its low level of corruption is acclaimed by the global corruption watchdog. Besides, Hong Kong has a sound legal and law enforcement system, in particular the ICAC, to fight against corruption whole-heartedly.

No. Cases of corruption are still reported in Hong Kong. Some of them even involved high officials of the government.

(Any reasonable and relevant answers are acceptable.)

2. To your knowledge, what are the measures the Hong Kong Government has taken to promote fair and clean election in Hong Kong?

The ICAC and EAC are responsible for implementing relevant ordinances in order to supervise and ensure that all elections are held in an equal, just and clean manner. The government raises public awareness of the importance of fair and clean elections through civic education so that electors will not accept advantages and will not tolerate electoral bribes.
A citizen from a developing country

With reference to the case and to your knowledge, why should the Hong Kong Government make efforts in keeping a fair and clean election? Why is it so important for political development?

Just and clean elections can ensure the results reflect the actual wishes of the electorates. It increases the legitimacy of the elections as well as the whole political system. It facilitates people’s pursuit of peaceful resolution of political problems. This can help to develop a community with political stability.
Concept Map of Hong Kong Government and I

Concept

“one country, two systems”

The Basic Law

“a high degree of autonomy”

“Hong Kong people governing Hong Kong”

Political Structure

Head of Executive Authorities

Chief Executive

Legislature (Legislative Council)

Judiciary (Refer to Module 21)

Executive Authorities (The Government)

Policy-making process

Methods for selection of CE and formation of LegCo and related development

Fair and Clean Election

The ultimate aim is the selection of the CE by universal suffrage upon nomination by a broadly representative nominating committee in accordance with democratic procedures

The ultimate aim is the election of all the members of the LegCo by universal suffrage

Meanings, importance and influences of universal suffrage