

Fully Implementing “Patriots Governing Macao” and Fostering Development through Administrative Reform



In 2025, the MSAR Government unwaveringly upheld the principle of “One country, two systems”, to prioritise safeguarding national security and long-term stability, fully implement the holistic approach to national security, and expedite related work. The Government firmly implemented the principle of “patriots governing Macao”, successfully completed the eighth Legislative Assembly election in accordance with the law, promoted public administration reform, strengthened executive-led administration, enhanced mechanisms for coordination between the executive, legislative and judicial authorities, and fostered social consensus, to realise better development of the Macao SAR.

The principle of “One country, two systems” constitutes the foundation of Macao’s prosperity and stability, while “patriots governing Macao” serves as the fundamental political assurance of effective implementation of “One country, two systems”. To translate the principle of “patriots governing Macao” into practice, the MSAR Government continued refining the related legal provisions and supporting mechanisms, amended local legislation – including the Legislative Assembly Election Law and the Law on Oath-taking upon Assumption of Office at the legislative level, thus further embedding the requirements of “patriots governing Macao” into the legal system and enforcement mechanisms, to provide a more solid legal foundation for promoting the fine traditions and core values of patriotism and love for Macao.

Successful Completion of the Legislative Assembly Election

On 14 September 2025, the eighth Legislative Assembly Election of the Macao SAR was successfully completed in a lawful, fair, just and corruption-free environment. This election marked

another milestone in the full implementation of the principle of “patriots governing Macao” and in further developing a quality democratic process that aligns with Macao’s actual circumstances.

The election demonstrated broad participation by all sectors of society. Voters actively exercised their civic rights and cast their votes. The number of votes cast in the direct election reached 175,272, with a turnout rate of 53.35 percent, setting a historical record. This fully reflected Macao’s positive atmosphere of democratic participation and injected strong confidence and momentum into the Macao SAR’s prosperity and stability.

Since its promulgation in 2001, the Legislative Assembly Election Law has undergone four amendments. Each amendment represented an important measure by the Macao SAR, to continuously improve its governance system by drawing on practical experience and responding to new circumstances and new requirements. In 2024, the Macao SAR again amended its Legislative Assembly Election Law, refining the procedures for eligibility review, further implementing the principle of “patriots governing Macao” from a legal perspective, and optimising electoral procedures to ensure that elections are fair, just, corruption-free and orderly.



On behalf of the MSAR Government, Chief Executive Sam Hou Fai extended his congratulations to the 14 directly elected and the 12 indirectly elected legislators, and expressed his gratitude to all registered voters who cast their votes. He said this election was of great significance as the first Legislative Assembly election held following the amendments to the related legislation in 2024. The election strictly implemented the principles of “One country, two systems”, “Macao people governing Macao” and a high degree of autonomy, fully adhered to the principle of “patriots

governing Macao”, and effectively upheld the constitutional order based on the Constitution and the Basic Law of Macao, thereby promoting stable and long-lasting successful practice of “One country, two systems” in Macao.

The Chief Executive said that the MSAR Government would, as always, strictly conform to the Constitution and the Basic Law of Macao; coordinate the division of work with the Legislative Assembly, while maintaining close communications and mutual support, to jointly serve Macao residents. He expressed the hope that the new-term legislators would pass on the spirit of patriotism and love for Macao, actively participate in politics, and repay voters’ trust through concrete actions. He further looked forward to the new-term Legislative Assembly continuing to work hand-in-hand with the MSAR Government, to boost the economy, strive for development, enhance people’s well-being, and jointly create a better future for Macao.

Taking Oath to Uphold the Basic Law and Bear Allegiance to the Macao SAR

On 1 November 2025, in accordance with the Basic Law of Macao, the Law on Safeguarding National Security, and the Basic Regulations on General Rules for Department Heads and Supervisors and the Macao Public Servants Statutes and Regulations – both of which came into effect on the same day following amendments, the MSAR Government held an oath-taking ceremony for heads of public departments and entities of the Macao SAR.

Witnessed by the officiating officer administering the oath, 264 heads of public departments and entities solemnly took the oath to uphold and implement the Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China and bear allegiance to the MSAR, faithfully perform their duties, abide by the law, act with integrity, and serve Macao with the utmost dedication.

Chief Executive Sam Hou Fai said the leading officials of the MSAR Government solemnly took the oath in accordance with the law, to uphold and implement the Basic Law of Macao and to bear allegiance to the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China. This not only represented a solemn commitment by the leaders of the core administration team to fulfil their responsibilities, but also manifested the MSAR’s full implementation of the principle of “patriots governing Macao”, carrying profound significance.

The Basic Regulations on General Rules for Department Heads and Supervisors and the Macao Public Servants Statutes and Regulations stipulate that department heads and supervisors are required, upon assuming office, to take an oath to uphold the Basic Law of Macao and bear allegiance to the Macao SAR. Other civil servants are required to make the oath by signing a declaration. Any person who refuses to take the oath shall have the related appointment revoked.

Deepening National Security Education

National security is the most important foundation of national development and the most fundamental protection for people’s well-being. In 2025, the Macao SAR continued improving the legal system and enforcement mechanisms for safeguarding national security, and promoted national security

through multiple channels, enabling residents to gain a profound understanding that national security is closely related to everyday life, and that safeguarding national security is the responsibility and obligation of every resident.

Each year since 2018, the MSAR Government and the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Macao SAR have jointly organised a series of activities in connection with National Security Education Day, including exhibitions, essay and short video competitions, and online quizzes. Participation continued increasing year by year, fostering confidence and determination throughout society regarding safeguarding national security, and laying a solid foundation for national security awareness in Macao.

From 15 April to 15 May, the National Security Education Exhibition was held with the theme "The 10th anniversary of National Security Education Day: advancing towards more in-depth and effective implementation". The exhibition attracted a total of 65,010 visits, the highest figure to date, while the related website recorded over 153,410 page views. Among the visitors were 16,655 students, 15,053 government personnel, 26,622 representatives from associations and social organisations, and 5,829 personnel from public and private institutions.

The exhibition attracted many Macao residents, schools, enterprises and associations to visit in organised groups. Professional guided tours were offered, to further expand the reach of national security education. On-site quizzes and interactive games with prizes were arranged, particularly targeting students and youth groups, to deepen their understanding of the holistic approach to national security through an engaging and educational approach.

In addition, the MSAR Government and the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Macao SAR jointly organised the "My Notion of Societal Security" Chinese essay and short video competitions, which received enthusiastic support from the education sector. Eight tertiary education institutions and 48 secondary schools participated, involving more than 25,700 students, representing an increase of approximately 3,000 compared to 2024. There were 520 shortlisted entries for the essay competition, while 85 works were selected in the short video competition. Participants interpreted national security from diverse perspectives, with submissions demonstrating both depth and creativity, reflecting Macao's young people's strong concerns regarding societal security.

Patriotic associations also organised talks and seminars on national security, inviting legal professionals, scholars and representatives of public departments to explain the legislative background of Article 23 of the Basic Law, key amendments to the Law on Safeguarding National Security, and the institutional arrangements of the Cybersecurity Law. Several associations, in cooperation with schools, organised school sharing sessions, to introduce the legal framework of national security and basic knowledge on preventing cyber risks to young students, thereby enhancing their awareness of the rule of law and digital literacy. Several youth organisations also organised exchange tours to the Chinese mainland, to visit patriotic education bases and deepen participants' understanding of national development and the national security landscape.

To commemorate the 80th anniversary of the victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War, a large-scale themed exhibition

organised by the MSAR Government, with support from the Memorial of Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, opened on 25 August 2025. As of 11 September, the exhibition had attracted more than 34,000 visits, while the related website recorded nearly 59,000 page views.

On 3 September, the MSAR Government arranged for representatives of government departments, various sectors of society and students to watch the live broadcast of the commemorative assembly held in Beijing to mark the 80th Anniversary of Victory in the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War. Higher education institutions and non-tertiary schools in Macao also arranged for students to view the live broadcast on campus. These two activities attracted nearly 60,000 participants, enabling the community to collectively remember the history of the War of Resistance and promote the indomitable national spirit and the great spirit of resistance.

Safeguarding Societal Security

The Macao SAR strives to build a comprehensive and multi-dimensional security governance system, continuously strengthen the four major pillars – i.e. law enforcement, the legal framework, capacity and cybersecurity, thereby providing comprehensive protection for social stability and smooth implementation of major events.

In strict accordance with the Law on Safeguarding National Security, crimes endangering national security were prevented and investigated, while close cooperation with judicial authorities ensured resolute crackdowns on activities by anti-China and destabilising forces. Counter-terrorism arrangements and regional and international cooperation were further strengthened, to prevent infiltration by external forces, proactively mitigate risks, and ensure smooth implementation of the eighth Legislative Assembly election, the 15th National Games events held in Macao, and major cultural, sports and performing arts activities.

In alignment with the MSAR Government's overall planning, the supporting legal framework for safeguarding national security was optimised and the draft bill on countering terrorism was refined in response to the counter-terrorism situation, providing a solid legal foundation for societal security.

A system of indicators for monitoring and early warnings regarding national security risks was established, to facilitate participation of the entire government and cross-departmental coordination. Through professional training and introduction of advanced technologies, the capabilities of frontline staff in risk assessment and responsiveness were substantially enhanced.

The Cyber Security Incident Alert and Emergency Response Centre continued to play its role by strengthening early warning notifications, incident handling and technical support, improving vulnerability management, conducting incident drills, and promoting the establishment of intelligence exchange mechanisms with neighbouring regions, to safeguard societal security.

Promoting Public Administration Reform

The MSAR Government prioritised the strengthening of coordination and overall planning related to



deepening public administration reform. In February 2025, a leadership and coordination mechanism for public administration reform was established, including a leading group chaired by the Chief Executive, a coordination group chaired by the Secretary for Administration and Justice, and 14 working groups, to improve inter-departmental coordination mechanisms and foster a system for administrative operations characterised by top-down coordination and highly efficient collaboration. During the year, the leading group held two meetings to determine directions for reform and ensure orderly progress with various measures.

In terms of streamlining organisational structures, the Government rebuilt the organisational structure of public administration, and formulated By-law No. 13/2025 on the general system for the establishment and organisational structure of public departments and entities, to clearly define the principles of departmental roles, operation and supervision, and set upper limits on organisational size to prevent institutional expansion. The MSAR Government expedited departmental restructuring in three dimensions: streamlining internal structures, optimising divisions of functions, and promoting integration and reorganisation. In the first phase, the Government Printing Bureau was merged into the Legal Affairs Bureau; the Secretariat of the Executive Council was reorganised; and work began on streamlining the Public Administration and Civil Service Bureau, the Financial Services Bureau, and the Municipal Affairs Bureau, in order to reduce excessive hierarchical levels, clarify the division of responsibilities, and strengthen overall governance synergy.

Public services continued being optimised. “Macao One Account” integrated more than 480 electronic services, with 670,000 registered users. Its service model evolved from basic digitalisation to integrated processing and one-stop service delivery. The “Business and Associations Platform” provided 200 services, with 20,000 physical accounts registered. The 24-hour self-service centres at the Macao Government Services Centre in Avenida de Venceslau de Morais and the Integrated Services Building in Rotunda de Carlos da Maia officially commenced operation. The basic framework of the unified platform for handling public opinions was completed, further facilitating access for residents and enterprises.

Deepening public administration reform constitutes a core task for the MSAR Government in implementing its administration philosophy of pursuing innovation. Building on the existing leadership and coordination mechanism for public administration reform, the MSAR Government systematically and comprehensively implemented reform measures based on three key pillars: streamlining government structures, enhancing the capacity of civil servants, and deepening innovation in public service delivery, to improve administrative efficiency and the quality of public services, converge collective efforts, and jointly promote the modernisation of the governance system and capability of the Macao SAR.

Consolidating the Momentum of Economic Recovery and Focusing on Promoting Appropriate Economic Diversification



In 2025, facing a complex and volatile environment both at home and abroad, Macao's economic and social development encountered numerous challenges. In response, the MSAR Government adjusted its administrative policies and measures according to the prevailing conditions. We introduced a series of initiatives to stimulate consumption, revitalise community economies, support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and promote industrial upgrading, thereby boosting public confidence and economic vitality. The revised figure for the full-year Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was 418.04 billion patacas, representing year-on-year real growth of 4.7 percent and restoring the economy to 89.6 percent of its level in 2019, continuing a steady and progressive development trend.

To revitalise the community economy, the MSAR Government adopted a new approach to drive zone development through government-led coordination, investment of business resources and community-based organisation, and collaborated with internationally renowned intellectual properties to host community events; launched the Community Consumption Rewards Programme