

香港恒生大學 THE HANG SENG UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG



#### 大中華區商業傳播研討會

Dialogues on Strategies: Sustaining Hong Kong's Leadership and Competitives in International Business Communication 策略對話:永續香港在國際商業傳播領域的領導地位及競爭力

Prospects and Challenges of Practicing Business Communication (商業傳播實踐的前景及挑戰)

## **Communicate Effectively with Your Stakeholders through** Impactful ESG Practices



#### **Richard Tsang**

Chairman and Founder Strategic Public Relations Group



## **Richard Tsang**

 30+ years of industry experience and commitment to excellence as substantiated by 24 international and regional PR and business awards and accolades.

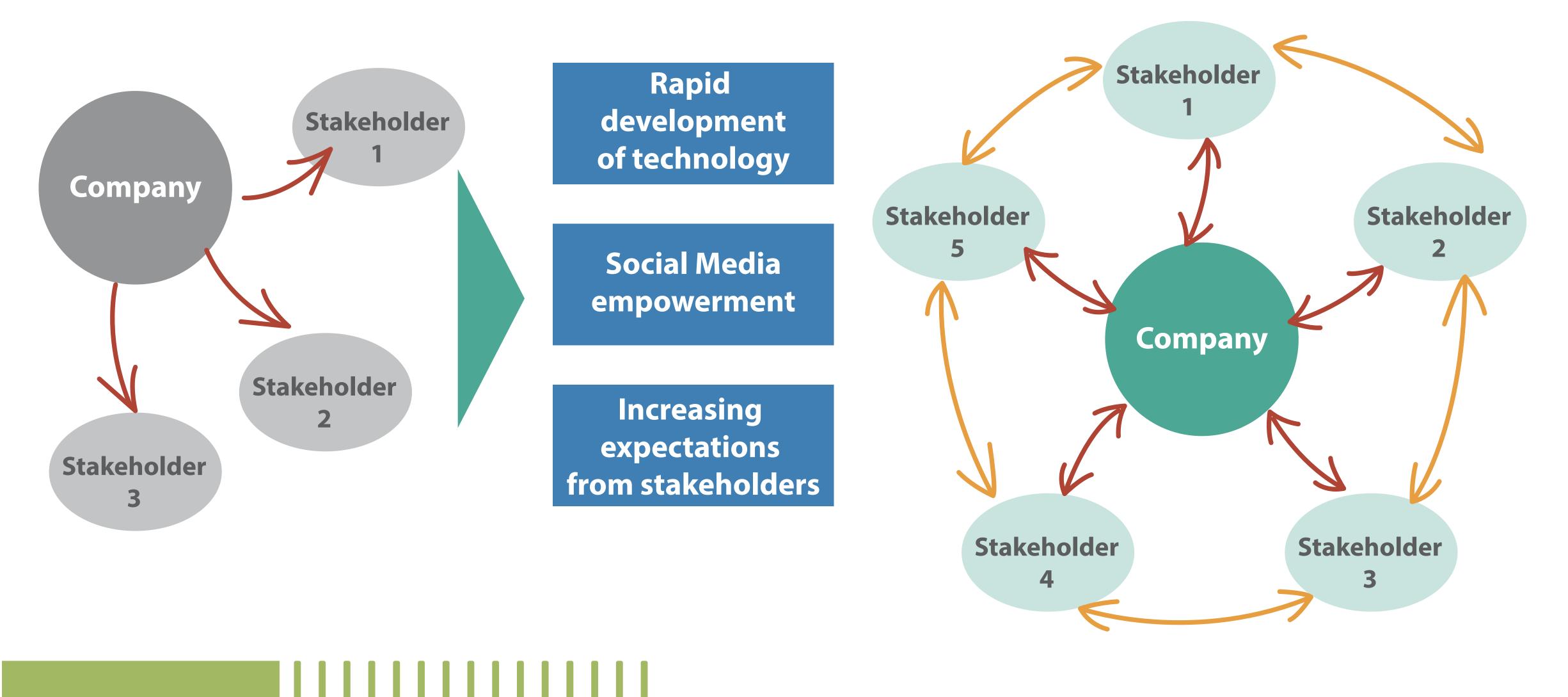
• Currently holds 80+ board, committee and advisory positions in more than 40 organisations:

- Academic
- Government
- Health and hygiene
- Industry
- Non-governmental organisations

- Religion
- Social welfare



## **Communication Landscape is Becoming More Complicated**





## **Different Expectations from Different Generations**

Be aware of the background and agenda of different stakeholders

Generational group	<b>Baby boomers</b> born between 1946 and 1964	<b>Gen X</b> born between 1965 and 1980	<b>Gen Y (Millennials)</b> born between 1981 and 2000	<b>Gen Z</b> born between 2001 and 2020
Brand perception	<ul> <li>Experienced difficult times such as wars and economic crises</li> <li>Quality is important<sup>1)</sup></li> <li>Loyal to brands that they have directly experienced <sup>2)</sup></li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Experienced the fastest growing of economy and accumulated wealth</li> <li>Loyal to brands with quality products <sup>3)</sup>/ further enhance social status</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Gen Y are the most socially conscious generation; they support brands with shared values <sup>4</sup>)</li> <li>Gen Z raises the bar by expecting brands to support social causes <sup>5</sup>)</li> </ul>	shared values 4)

Source:

- 1) https://www.marketingcharts.com/demographics-and-audiences/boomers-and-older-117807
- 2) https://www.brandfire.ie/2019/12/10/baby-boomers-brand-loyalty-loyal/
- 3) https://basis.net/blog/generation-x-the-small-but-mighty-generation
- 4) https://www.forbes.com/sites/margueritacheng/2019/06/19/8-characteristics-of-millennials-that-support-sustainable-development-goals-sdgs/?sh=13180fe29b75
- 5) https://www.ypulse.com/article/2021/03/08/these-are-the-top-causes-gen-z-millennials-want-brands-involved-in/





## **Corporate Values Are Under Scrutiny**

#### Alignment with Values (% agreement with each statement)

It is important to me that companies I buy from align with my values

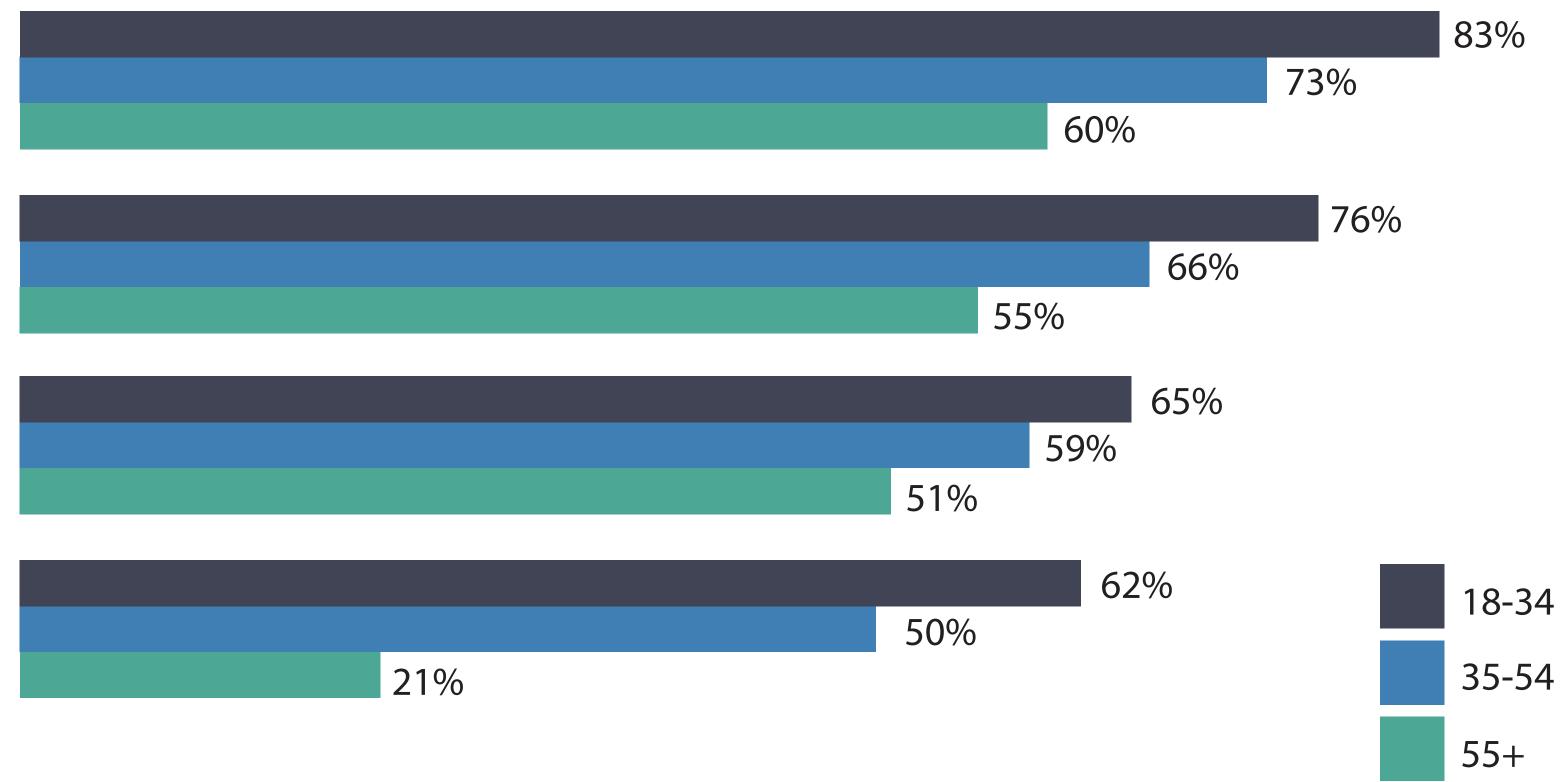
I like it when CEOs of companies speak out on issues I care about

I have boycotted a company I have previously purchased from because of their stance on an issue

I enjoy buying products that show off my social or political ideology or beliefs

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## **Establishing ESG as Common Ground for Managing Different Stakeholders**

- Global/Local acceptance of initiatives
- No one opposes ESG initiatives
- Complies with higher/highest stakeholder standards
- Answer/Solution for addressing conflicting expectations of stakeholders



## Integrating Expertise into ESG Initiatives

#### • China Mobile Limited uses technological innovation to bolster flood control and disaster relief



Source: China Mobile Sustainability Report 2021



## **Integrating Expertise into ESG Initiatives**

against the coronavirus



Source: http://www.cnpc.com.cn

#### • China National Petroleum ramps up masks production and shoulders its responsibilities in the fight



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## **Embedding ESG into Business**



The Body Shop has been advocating for animal rights since 1989



McDonald's has been consistent with its promotion of workplace diversity since 1979



## **Be a Hero During Times of Need**



#### Dyson: new ventilator





Adidas: produced face shields/donated masks

Lamborghini: breathing simulators



Uber: supports frontline workers/ seniors



Brewing and distilling companies: hand sanitizer





## **Benefits of Effective Communication**

#### **Investors favour stocks that uphold ESG standards**

### Gains access to large pools of capital – Green bonds/loans, climate bonds, etc.

**Easier penetration into new markets** 

**Attracts top talent** 

### **Obtains higher valuations**





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Integrating ESG practices into carefully devised communication strategies will help corporates/brands to build their reputation, obtain support and manage the expectations of different stakeholders



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