

Conference Sponsored by the Fusion Energy Forum and the Schiller Institute

On the Centennial of the German-American Space Pioneer:

# Realizing Krafft Ehrlicke's Vision for the Future of Mankind

Munich, Germany, Saturday, March 25, 2017  
10 am to 6 pm

On March 24, 2017, space pioneer Dr. Krafft Ehrlicke would have been 100 years old. To honor the work of his lifetime and propagate his beautiful ideas on the future of mankind in the universe, the Fusion Energy Forum and the Schiller Institute will sponsor an international conference in Munich with prominent participants on the future perspectives for space travel, science, and technology.

Krafft Ehrlicke was well known for his maxim: *"It has been said, 'If God had wanted man to fly, He would have given man wings.' Today we can say, 'If God wanted man to become a spacefaring species, He would have given man a Moon.'"*

For Krafft Ehrlicke, space exploration and the colonization of space were the natural next phase of mankind's evolution. He considered the industrialization of the Moon, in particular, to be the springboard for man's excursions into the Solar System, and potentially beyond. He was convinced that it was only through manned space travel that the evolution of the human species would effectively reach adulthood, and that the "great challenge of the extra-terrestrial imperative," as Krafft Ehrlicke called it, would raise man to his true destiny.

Dr. Krafft Ehrlicke devoted his entire life to that goal, and made significant contributions to John F. Kennedy's Apollo program. Unfortunately, after the assassination of Kennedy, his vision and that of many space enthusiasts was not pursued. America did put the first man on the Moon, but did not press ahead with Lunar exploration with a view to conquering our Solar System.

Today, thanks to China's policy, we finally have the opportunity to take up this task once again. China plans further missions to the Moon, including the first landing of a spacecraft on the far side of the Moon, and has further plans for developing the Moon's potential, such as the



mining of helium-3 to solve mankind's energy problems on Earth for thousands of years to come with fusion energy.

Here on Earth, China is building its infrastructure just as dynamically. Every year 2,000 km of high-speed rail are added to the national railway network, which has already grown to 20,000 km and should reach 50,000 km by 2030, when all major cities in China will be linked by high-speed trains.

China is also intent on securing its energy supply by developing nuclear energy. In fact, China is building more new nuclear plants than anywhere else in the world, which is in total contrast to the energy policy of Germany, where nuclear energy is supposed to be completely phased out by 2022. To prevent that policy from leading to a catastrophe similar to that of the 1930s, we

need to reverse the so-called “energy transition” and build safe, new nuclear energy plants such as the inherently safe high temperature reactor, while massively increasing funding for fusion energy research. Here again, China, unlike the Western world, is increasing funds for fusion research every year.

But China is not only developing its domestic economy; it is also investing massively in other countries. Over the past three years, little noticed by Western media, China has developed a completely new strategic orientation with the New Silk Road initiative, which involves cooperation with more than seventy nations, and covers two thirds of the Earth’s population, 75% of energy resources, and over 70% of worldwide GDP.

The magazine *Forbes* wrote of the new alliance: “It’s potentially an earth-shaking, paradigm-breaking disruption that would more fluidly connect the economic giants of China, Russia, Iran, India, and Europe into a loosely af-

filiated geo-economic bloc that could shift the balance of global power.”

It is more than that. China’s offer of “win-win” cooperation is inclusive: i.e., it is the concrete perspective to rise above the level of geopolitics, and to realize a new paradigm for the common aims of mankind. Or, as President Xi Jinping expressed it in his New Year’s message, it is based on the belief that mankind is a community of common destiny, which can transform our planet into a peaceful and prosperous place.

To Germany and other European nations, these strategic changes offer extraordinary opportunities, and cooperation above all in the key areas of fusion energy and space research opens the possibility to place many of Krafft Ehrlicke’s visions concretely on the agenda. Thus, this conference will not only honor his contribution to the history of science, but seek to inspire the practices of the present and the future.

## REGISTRATION REQUIRED

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### Please fax or email this form to:

Fax: 089 - 7254922

E-mail: werner.zuse@t-online.de

**Contact:** Mr. Zuse, 089 - 50 19 83

**Address: Fusions-Energie-Forum**

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81306 München

Conference fee: €100, Students €50

Members of the Sponsor Associations €65

Payment of the conference fee by:

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*The conference package includes refreshments and a business lunch.*

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