

Climate
Engineering
Conference
2014

CRITICAL
GLOBAL
DISCUSSIONS

Program

18-21 August, Berlin, Germany
Scandic Berlin Potsdamer Platz
ce-conference.org



<http://ce-conference.org/>

Climate Engineers in Berlin

Coup d'Etat against global democracy

- Summarized report of a critical environmental activist

THE CONFERENCE FRAMEWORK AND THE CORE MESSAGE

The ultimate aspiration of the pseudo scientists of the twenty-first century who for decades have been engaged in manipulating the earth's climate systems, allegedly in the common interest, is – while totally ignoring the citizenry – to secure legitimacy for the geoengineering option before a political class unable to take decisions on the matter.

On July 18th 2014 a four-day conference on climate engineering was held in Berlin. Among the more than 300 participants from 40 countries were many of the most questionable geo-engineers to be found in an increasingly questionable *international scientific community*.

The organizing body was the recently-created IASS (2102) which, to judge from its sponsors, has found a comfortable spot for itself under the big beach umbrella of climate change. This body has set itself the task of promoting the necessary dialogue between the scientific community and civil society on climate engineering subjects, an objective that will not be attained if the present 9-to-1 ratio of scientists to civil society is maintained.

The public varied from persons in their sixties to young people in their twenties. The most prestigious universities in the world sent their most experienced researchers and an endowment of goodwill. The event was promising, though it was a clear example of how the debate on such a lofty subject is being confined to the academic and scientific level, without descending to the level of society. Its lack of impact on the media testifies to how its exposure is being controlled by those who fear that public opinion could put a rapid end to the nonsense being retailed by the same deaf mutes that run the world generally.

Four blocks per day were proposed, each dealing with at least four different topics, including a minimum of four papers per subject. Given the fact that the four blocks were taking place simultaneously, this program meant that a participant had to sacrifice twelve options. The titles are indicative of their importance: these are vital issues for people who, because of their positions, are now being obliged to pay attention to what is happening and what it implies for public safety and public health.

Among the issues discussed, we consider the following worthy of emphasis: (a) The Past Decade of Climate Engineering Research (b) Climate Politics at the Crossroads: Is Climate Engineering a Wrench in the Works or a Tool in the Toolbox? (c) Exploring the Politics of Climate Engineering (d) International Law for the Regulation of Climate Engineering (e) Risks and Conflict Potential of Climate Engineering. (f) Climate Engineering and the Meaning of Nature (g) Civil Society and Geoengineering: Who's Engaging Whom? (h) From Geoengineering to Geo-weaponeering: The Security Dimensions of Climate Engineering (i) Novel SRM Techniques: Cirrus Cloud Thinning and Marine Sky Brightening. (j) Climate Geoengineering and the Potential Role of Human Rights Regimes. (k) Climate Engineering Governance — is the Climate Convention the Right Place for It? (l) Climate Engineering and Human Engineering: Social and Technological Challenges in the Anthropocene (m) The International Control of Climate Engineering and Research: Debating Why, How and Who. (n) Local Laws, Global Liability: Using National and Local Laws to Regulate Climate Engineering and Allocate Responsibility for Its Impacts (ñ) *Presenting Theories and Evidences of actual programs of aerial fumigation with aerosols. (Presentation of Groups of the Civil Society in a Free Session).*

OPENING SESSION AND MASTER LECTURERS



Mark Lawrence

The opening session was brilliantly presented by the Research Director of IASS Mark Lawrence, who insisted on the importance of differentiating between climate engineering and geo-engineering. Nevertheless, it soon became evident that the scientists could not agree on the semantics, since over the four following days both terms were used interchangeably to denote the deliberate manipulation of the climate at global scale for the purpose of mitigating anthropogenic global warming caused by the use of fossil fuels producing greenhouse gases such as CO₂. This lack of agreement was papered over by statements such as that in future we won't speak of geoengineering but of specific techniques and technologies.

In the opening session, against a background of impending climate emergencies or climate disasters, German politicians proved to be past masters in the art of swimming while watching one's clothes. They stated that the idea of developing a climate modification tool to be kept in a toolbox, just in case CO₂ emissions cannot be controlled (this being the official hypothesis) is not to be encouraged given the associated inherent risks. There is always the possibility that someone will be tempted to use it. Though some of the speakers were critical of geo-engineering, insisting on what they call mitigation (reduction of emissions and carbon capture), they, nevertheless, argued that research must continue. More radical speakers proposed transition to a nuclear-free and decarbonized society, so eliminating the need for implementation of geo-engineering. There was no way that the voice of the United States could be missing from this session, and it was duly included in the person of Jane C.S (picture below) whose long list of distinctions was comparable for noteworthiness only with the implacably harsh content of her intervention: nuclear energy, "fracking", geo-engineering, none of these could be "taken off the table". She concluded by adding a personal observation, apparently unperturbed by the egregious contradiction: "of course, things have to be done with respect for mother earth".



Opening Panel

One of the most clear-sighted interventions was that of the President and founder of IASS, Klaus Töpfer, outstanding German politician and a senior official at the United Nations, who predicted the end of parliamentary democracy due to the fact that the multinational corporations have so much power that key decisions affecting society are no longer taken in the national parliaments. Given this situation, it makes little sense to pay a bunch of politicians to carry out ineffectual rearguard pretend-work because they will end up merely placing a legislative patina over decisions made by those who control the markets. Another of Mr Töpfer's pearls was that the system spends thousand of millions of dollars coining words and shaping public debate because those who control the lexicon control the topics. Both statements are extremely pertinent to the subject of geo-engineering.

It is obvious that decisions relevant to this subject are not taken in the Parliament and that European politicians are activated by a code similar in some ways to the omertà principle, closing ranks in a manner that simultaneously nullifies any claims of public authority and/or demands for accountability by citizens, denying the existence of climate manipulation and ostentatiously defaming anyone who publicly provides information on such manipulation. It is also obvious that a powerful strategy exists for diversion of language towards exotic and inappropriate terms that nobody understands, such as the term *chemtrails*, for the purpose of regulating opposition, undermining public debate, thwarting social reaction and action and avoiding parliamentary control. It is like the fish that bites its own tail. The end result is that a decade of public exposure has been lost, social self-defense has been hindered and the climate manipulators have been given the time they needed to consolidate their position on governance of their criminal activities outside of any legal framework, national or international.

SOCIAL SCIENTISTS, PHYSICISTS AND CIVIL SOCIETY

Right from the start of these conferences there have been two easily identifiable groups of scientists: physicists and social scientists. The physicists are in turn divisible into: 1) those who have for years been working on projects related to climate control (which was developed initially as a military weapon, banned by the United Nations' ENMOD Treaty in 1977 due to its destructive potential) but insist that geoengineering will never be deployed because of the risk it poses for the planet, and moreover deny that field experiments have ever been conducted. And: 2) those who urgently proclaim the necessity for deployment to cool the planet given that other attempted mitigation measures are not working. The key names are Alan Robock, Ken Caldeira, Clive Hamilton. They are all vying with each other to inject an aura of prestige into a debate that has never really existed.

Both groups agree that geo-engineering is something that for the moment remains theoretical: a matter for hypotheses and mathematical computer simulations. The difference between them is that whereas the first group does not care to spend time and money, whether public or private, on developing technologies that, given their risks, will never be implemented, the latter group is not shy of starting deployment without prior testing of climate manipulation, even though they

cannot be sure of the consequences because the atmosphere is not a closed laboratory in which all variables are controlled. Both scientific groups were exposed when a Pakistani biologist asked the question of whether or not they had investigated the impact that these technologies would have on the planet and on the people. The silence that followed his question spoke volumes.

The social scientists, for their part, launched a full-scale offensive to secure the role of intermediaries between civil society and the natural scientists. This is something to which the latter took exception, stating that they had no need for intermediaries. Did the idea represent a challenge to their hegemony? To pursue their line of argument the social scientists submitted some studies from an ostensible “public debate” employing marketing formulas and based on 15-person samples! Guardacielos and Skyguards openly questioned the reliability of this method on the grounds that related public debate simply does not exist. They also queried whether the proponents of this kind of study are taking due cognizance of the fact that such studies lead to the elaboration of social profiles for use by promoters of geoengineering in minimizing social resistance to it.

Some Oxford University luminaries, as a sequel to their celebrated text “The Five Oxford Principles of Geoengineering”, proposed signature of the “Berlin Manifesto”, granting themselves the power to act in the name of civil society. In justification of this innovation they pleaded the urgency of the situation and the lack of time to open a public debate. Everything for the people, without the people. Would these scientists be able to earn a living if it weren’t for the climate change gravy train?

GOVERNANCE OF GEO-ENGINEERING

As regards geo-engineering governance, despite the cross-border impact of geo-engineering, its practitioners claim freedom of research privileges under the London Protocol. The bottom line is that the more countries reach agreement the greater will be the legitimacy accorded to geo-engineering deployment. Nevertheless, in the light of the difficulty of reaching consensus, action might be decided on by a smaller number of countries. They would undoubtedly be the same countries as those that have been experimenting for years in open skies. Consequently, among friends, the modification of existing treaties is seen as more probable than the elaboration of a new one.

CIVIL SOCIETY REPRESENTATION

Few invitations to speak were extended to representatives of civil society. The only such participants were Third World Network, the ETC Group, RALLT and Biofuelwatch. The absence from this debate of groups traditionally regarded as guardians of the environment such as Greenpeace and Ecologists in Action, was unsettling. One day they will have to explain the reasons for their convergence with the opportunistic side of the climate change problematic, closer to political, military & industrial interests than to those of society.

It is obvious that no financial support is available for organizations outside an identifiable institutional consensus. Nevertheless, when it comes to environmental issues and their effect on public health, such factors cannot be allowed to determine priorities. If these “gatekeeper” groups prefer to lose thousands of supporters as a result of their refusal to confront the geoengineering issue, that is their loss, not ours.

Biofuelwatch sounded the alarm about leading people to believe that biofuel does not generate CO₂, showing how citizens of less developed countries are being deprived of agricultural land needed for their subsistence because of practices such as biochar. Other speakers related how in the Philippines, Canada and the Galapagos islands (Ecuador), experiments in marine geo-

engineering are being carried out by Australian companies. These experiments include the fertilization of oceans with iron oxide, among other compounds, for the purpose of altering the marine chemistry so that the oceans can absorb carbon from the atmosphere. Shortly after the commencement of these disastrous tests, Ecuador initiated an international campaign to put an end to this type of experimentation in its seas, modifying its Constitutional Charter in order to incorporate into it the Rights of the Land. However, satellite images indicated that the experiments continued.

Despite being banned by the London Protocol, these practices are being carried out in the name of freedom of research. Attention was drawn to the fact that companies from rich countries have chosen poor countries as the sites for conducting their experimentation rather than pursuing the possibility of experimenting in their own countries. Various associations agreed that these experiments were being carried out without the knowledge of or authorization from the governments and citizens of the countries in question. But none of those environmentalists made any reference at all to ongoing atmospheric geo-engineering, Solar Radiation Management (SRM) or the dispersion of metallic oxides in the atmosphere/troposphere is something they do not believe could ever happen! Had it not been for a small group of activists against geoengineering from the UK, Austria and Spain, the phenomenon would have been passed over in silence, making the conference more like a meeting of friends than a debate on a subject of extreme relevance. Members of the civic platforms Guardacielos and Skyguard were present in this small group, and their interventions in defence of civil society made the difference on a number of occasions between being substantial and being inconsequential.

CIVIL SOCIETY AGAINST GEO-ENGINEERING FACES GEO- ENGINEERS

The fact that civil society does not need intermediaries to talk to scientists was made crystal clear throughout the conference by Josefina Fraile, spokesperson for the abovementioned platforms. When a British physicist started his intervention in a round table discussion stating that when it comes to geoengineering he and his colleagues were legitimated to make the needed decisions by the fact that they are financed out of public funds, Josefina Fraile responded that in reality they are being paid with corporate money and that this in itself renders them unworthy of trust. She added that we are in a democracy and that in a democracy legitimacy is the hands of citizens and expressed through democratic electoral processes for selection of representatives. The truth of the matter, though, is that those representatives have the same zero credibility as the scientists because they deny the existence of ongoing geo-engineering. Josefina Fraile warned that when the debate on geo-engineering - at present confined to scientific circles - finally gets through to public opinion, civil society will never accept such nonsense. She warned the scientists that they had better take good note of this because sooner or later they will be held accountable. Josefina added that science must be at the service of the society and not at the service of corporations. She also made the point that it is unacceptable for the old up-down communication pattern to be maintained for "educating" society. The real purpose in any case is not education but indoctrination. Josefina Fraile closed her intervention by telling scientists they must ask society what kind of world they want for themselves and their children. It is on this that their investigations must be based.

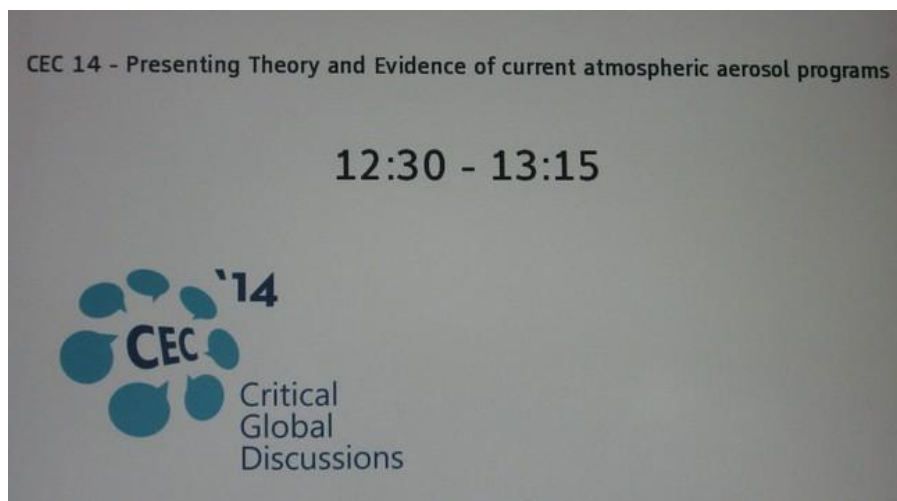
The influence of the "urgency" lobby whose message is that immediate action must be taken to mitigate global warming could be felt in each and every session of the conference. The tenacity of its interventions was reminiscent of those of the nuclear lobby, something in no way coincidental because the two share roots, targets and resources. One clear and rational voice from the academic community was that of Professor Mojib Latif. Deploying few but accurate words, he said that geo-engineering was a dangerous proposal of limited life expectancy. We could and should just forget about it. Geoengineering was a "band-aid" proposal with a feasible duration of implementation of 25 years at most. It had been devised to combat the symptoms of

a disease, not the disease itself. If CO2 is the problem, it could be solved within 20 years. Society has the resources to adopt a different mode of production and consumption employing renewable energies and related technologies, making the manipulation of the climate unnecessary and so avoiding the risks that it represents for the survival of the planet.

ACTIVISTS AGAINST GEO-ENGINEERING MANAGE TO GET A SPACE OUTSIDE THE OFFICIAL AGENDA WHERE THEY CAN PRESENT THEIR CONCERNS

Although the balance of forces at the event was weighed disproportionately against them, the six activists against geo-engineering succeeded in securing from the event's organizers a space in which to hold a meeting for presentation of alternative views.

Introducing a session entitled *Presenting Theory and Evidence of current atmospheric aerosol programs*, the activists staked the claim to be expressing the concerns of society vis à vis the established fact that spraying is being carried out by unidentified aircraft. Solid evidence was presented. Whatever the claims made (e.g. by conference speaker Susanne Dröge) to the effect that the EU does not want to take sides on the issue of geo-engineering, these activists succeeded in casting doubt on the wisdom of any such approach.



One subject that was brought up in this unprogrammed session was a point that had been tabooed in all other sessions, namely the way that the law of cause and effect had been reversed and geoengineering gone from being an experiment in mathematical computer simulation to being a real experiment on the open laboratory of Planet Earth, causing anthropogenic climate change as required by the political-military-industrial complex.

Given the lack of publicity and the fact that this session had been inserted into the program to take place during a lunch break, attendance was not overwhelming. Nevertheless, sixteen people came, almost twice the number present at other official sessions. They included Mr. Ken Caldeira, who left, however, after listening for a few minutes.

Following the spontaneous but well-documented presentations of the participants from the United Kingdom, the spokesperson for Guardacielos & Skyguards outlined the initiative presented on 8th and 9th April 2013 to the European Parliament. The purpose of the Europarliament conference had been to explain the concerns of civil society regarding climate manipulation. At the end of the conference a formal request for an independent investigation had been submitted and subsequently admitted for processing.

Along similar lines, the local government of Shasta County in Redding, California, had unanimously approved a motion to investigate the complaints against geoengineering submitted by civil society. It had been a huge meeting, and Skyguards had had the honor to be there, along with ex-pilots, army meteorologists, biologists, medical doctors, farmers, victims of “collateral damage”, all presenting their testimonies.

Josefina Fraile’s Berlin intervention ended with a reference to the Statement on Geoengineering presented by Skyguards and distributed in the poster session. It is worth pointing out that 200 pins with the text “Stop Climate Manipulation” and “Climate Manipulation No Thanks” were left on the table as a complimentary offer to participants and met with a positive reception. Even geoengineers took them as souvenirs.



SOME OF THE BEST AND WORST COMMENTS MADE BY PARTICIPANTS

There were too many speakers in the sessions at this conference. With no more than ten minutes available for speakers to present their papers, there was no time for debate. All that was heard was a succession of statements from the four blocks extending over four days. Here are some of the most interesting comments:

- The agenda behind geo-engineering has nothing to do with science. It does, however, have a lot to do with politics and finance. (participant from Africa)
- We cannot take decisions on the basis of mathematical computer modeling (American lawyer)
- The system spends thousands of millions of dollars coining words and shaping public debate because those who control the lexicon control the topics.
- Pressure is being exerted to go into action for the purpose of saving lives and properties, But good decisions can never ever be taken under pressure of fear or desperation.
- Only rich countries speak about geo-engineering; countries which are rich, white and techno-obsessed.
- **Have the religions of the world been taken into account during the shaping of these policies? (no answer).** In this connection we had the opportunity to talk to an American scientist about the immunity from responsibility or liability that appears to be enjoyed by the scientific community. They seem to place themselves in a legal protection-zone from where they have a license to destroy life with accountability to no one and with nobody to question their actions. We suggested to this scientist the creation of an international corporation to monitor scientific developments, with competences to judge scientists working on projects proven to constitute crimes against humanity: The scientist agreed with this suggestion.

There were also a number of statements that seemed, to say the least, eccentric. One of them was the proposal that geoengineering be considered a human right. Another was a proposal from a futurologist (adviser to governments and institutions!) who stated *that we are not as dangerous to the planet as the planet is dangerous to us. He added that the planet has always emerged from the worst scenarios. No matter what we do to the planet, it will always survive.* Any comment on this would surely be superfluous.

ASSESSMENT OF THE EVENT

The event was rather biased toward the officialist side of climate change discourse, based on an entrenched thesis that nobody questioned. It must be very difficult to try to organize a conference covering the multifarious aspects of a very complex issue, but it would have been desirable, we believe, for there to have been some involvement of scientists questioning the official thesis of climate change: the scientists who have been marginalized in the IPCC.

Scientists at this conference did not explain, and did not have to explain, how and why we moved from the topic of global warming to the topic of climate change. Moreover, there was not a single climatologist willing to touch on the subject of the potentially terrible consequences of intervening in the planet's climatic systems. Nor was there a single solar scientist to explain to the audience how **it is the sun** which determines the climate of the planet and not CO₂ (with the corollary that controlling the sun is the key to controlling the climate. Perhaps this is why in geoengineering schemes the proposal of controlling solar radiation takes precedence over that of reducing man-made CO₂.) There was not a single paper to give a documented account of the climate change industry: who is benefiting and who is not benefiting from the astronomical global budget being allocated to it. Nobody said a word about the many companies worldwide that are offering climate modification services, or how it is that they can offer an end product when there has not been a prior experimental phase of geo-engineering. Nor was there anyone to focus attention on the winners and losers from implementing climate control technologies. Last but not least, it would have been desirable for some attention to be paid to the military research on techniques of climate manipulation that has been going on for more than 60 years: the practical tests it has conducted and its impact in the climatic system. On this subject all speakers remained conveniently silent, mentioning Popeye, Gromet, Argus, etc., but with no reference at all to, for example "*Owning the weather in 2025*"

From the logistics viewpoint it would have been desirable to have fewer speakers, more space for debate and a sequential distribution of the papers instead of parallel sessions. If that had been done nobody would have had to miss any of the contributions on such an important issue. There was no need for testimonial sessions. Nor was there any need for the presence of certain futurologists

All in all it was a good event with room for improvement in future. The generally commendable level of moderators should be acknowledged. They did a good job, even insisting on audience respect for divergent opinions when this was needed. The attention to participants and the catering were also excellent.

Our overall evaluation of the conference was very positive. It has allowed us to claim our space as civil society, a space that had been usurped by social scientists from universities that have been working for decades on climate manipulation. It has also allowed us to speak directly to geo-engineers and tell them to their faces what we think and what we expect of them.

From Guardacielos / Skyguards / Terra SOS-tenible, we thank IASS for the organization of this event because it has allowed civil society to emerge with greater strength. We also thank our collaborators for enabling our participation in this event.

Josefina Fraile Martín / Spokesperson Portavoz de Guardacielos / Skyguards

Skyguards is an international platform comprising civic associations from more than 20 EU countries. It was founded by the Spanish association Terra SOS-tenible to address climate manipulation/geoengineering issues and defend citizens' interests at all possible levels: research, educational, corporate, institutional, political, judicial, etc.

Within this perspective Skyguards took the concerns of European civil society to the European Parliament on 8th and 9th April 2013 and filed a formal petition in May to demand an independent investigation. The Committee on Petitions has accepted the demand.

Terra SOS-tenible, a Spanish Association with Registration Nº 170352, has the support of local and international scientists, physicists, chemists, biologists, meteorologists, geologists, aeronautical engineers, researchers, environmental activists and farmers' organizations.