Professor emeritus Dr. Friedrich-Karl Ewert of Paderborn University addressed the Schiller Institute’s conference in Rüsselsheim, Germany, on July 2.¹ This report on his speech, with a selection of his graphics, was translated from German.

Professor Ewert began by thanking the Schiller Institute for having invited him, adding that he is especially glad “that the youth, so many young people, are here, because it’s your future. You have to battle it out against today’s Zeitgeist.” And unfortunately, this Zeitgeist is rather stubbornly held, and rather widespread.

He proceeded to show one of the typical charts circulated by the official climate institutes (Figure 1). “Whenever politicians see a chart like this showing climate and temperature change, they get frightened, and understandably so, since they see that indeed the temperature has been rising since 1960-70.”

¹ For the video in German, with English simultaneous translation, see: http://www.schiller-institut.de/seiten/2011/russelsheim/20110702-ewert.html

He himself had only begun to deal with climate change in recent years, “because as a geologist, I asked myself, ‘What exactly are they telling you about this climate change?’ But there’s nothing special about it; we’ve always had climate change. Temperatures on the Earth have been stable only temporarily, and for the most part they have changed after a short time.”
There are many causes of these climatic changes—for example, the changes of the Earth’s orbital path around the Sun. “As you know, the Earth travels around the Sun on an ellipse, and the radii of this ellipse, along with the Earth’s rotational axis in relation to this ellipse, are constantly changing…. These changes cause us, among other things, to have periodic ice ages on the Earth, and these ice ages have often spread much farther southward than we have been accustomed to recently.

As an example of this continual climatic change, he showed a comparative representation of the size of the Caspian Sea (Figure 2), “how it has changed over the course of 5 million years, as a result of the fact that precipitation conditions in the watershed feeding the Caspian Sea have undergone repeated changes—changes that are periodic, as we can see here…. This has been the case for over 5 million years, and nobody can say that man had a hand in it, since he didn’t even exist yet.”

Professor Ewert used other charts to demonstrate the “quite remarkable climatic variations over the past 650,000 years, and, in greater detail, the past 9,000 years” (Figure 3).

“Figure 4 shows climate variations since 1880. The variations in solar insolation—i.e., changes in solar activity—are in red, and the blue lines are the Earth’s temperature, which follow this insolation. People always claim that this is the fault of man with his anthropogenic CO₂. “But that’s not true, as you can see in this figure. The increased and increasing production of anthropogenic CO₂ from coal, oil, and natural gas only began in earnest after 1940, and since, as you know, effects always follow causes, any warming before 1950 could not have been caused by CO₂ production that came later.” And CO₂ can’t possibly have caused glacial melting, which started back in 1820, and which has a completely natural cause, namely, our re-warming following the Little Ice Age.

For the assumption that anthropo-
genic CO\textsubscript{2} influences climate, there exists “not a shred of genuine proof; rather, it is based on computer-model calculations that are used to spin scenarios.” As one example of the unreliability of such computer models, he returned to the Caspian Sea: “In 1995, a scenario was presented, predicting that up through 2010, there would be an great rise in its water level. Exactly the opposite occurred: Only two years later, it had already gone down by 40 centimeters.”

Ewert noted that the charts released by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) cover only the past 150 years. “Now, you have to wonder—because it’s well known that climatic changes proceed slowly: Why didn’t the IPCC use any older data, even though it was readily available? . . . None of the temperature data series from 1765 up to the present were cited, and none were evaluated, leaving all the more latitude for future prognoses and scenarios.”

So, whom are we to believe? Ewert, as a geologist, and not a climate researcher or a climatologist, considers himself like “the naive child in Hans Christian Andersen’s fairy tale ‘The Emperor’s New Clothes,’ who wants to see what kind of clothes the Emperor is wearing—and lo and behold, he’s not wearing any!”

**Ewert’s Own Analysis of the Data**

“I also evaluated data which are readily available on the Internet. The data I’m showing you here, which I’ve analyzed on my own, are from Internet portals, and anyone can verify them. They’re from such Internet portals as wetterzentrale.de, The Little Ice Age Thermometers\textsuperscript{2} and Rimfrost\textsuperscript{3}. The weather monitoring stations evaluated are distributed worldwide. “Most of them are in Europe, but we also have a sufficient number of them in Australia, in [North] America, in Asia, and relatively few in South America and Africa.”

In order to have a frame of reference, Ewert first examined historical values of the intensity of insolation in the infrared band, and of recorded temperatures. “Up until the end of the 18th Century, we had the so-called Little Ice Age. Life wasn’t comfortable back then….”

Between 900 and 1300, we had the so-called Medieval Climatic Optimum, when it was significantly warmer. Crops could be grown in Greenland. After that, the temperatures dropped. These changes correlate well with solar insolation.”

Aside from the Earth’s re-warming itself, during the three centuries following the Little Ice Age there have been temperature variations of only a few tenths of a

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2. http://climatereason.com/LittleIceAgeThermometers
3. http://www.rimfrost.no
degree per century, as the result of variations in insolation from the Sun. “This is shown by the temperature variation curves derived from the long-term statistical series.” Ewert showed two examples of such long-term series from central England (since ca. 1659) and Berlin, and then, using the example of data from the De Bilt weather station in the Netherlands, how such curves are arrived at:

“You go to the Internet and extract the data . . . and then you use an Excel program to produce these curves, and you realize: Aha! It’s going up, by 0.48°C per century—i.e., every 100 years it is getting 0.48°C warmer, as the result of the re-warming following the Little Ice Age, as I already mentioned. This 0.48°C per century is for the total period, during which subsidiary warming or cooling periods have occurred.”

In order to understand this, you have to ascertain the changes in each individual segment. “When you analyze the variation curves, you must first investigate the total change, and then also the changes in the partial segments.” These total changes vary from region to region (Figure 5). “However, since 1700, we have had not only warming periods, but also cooling periods. This is interesting, because the Little Ice Age apparently has not yet ended in all the Earth’s regions; in many places, it is still ongoing, since otherwise we wouldn’t have these cooling periods. The amount of cooling in Wellington, New Zealand, for example, is –0.54°C per century, and in Vestmannaeyjar in Iceland it is even –2.44°C per century.”

When analyzing the data, it is especially important to take into account the so-called Urban Heat Island Effect (UHI). This effect occurs when the expansion of urban settlement results in local warmings that are independent of climatic changes. “The variation curves of New York and West Point show this very clearly, with the difference between the two locations (Figure 6). The bottom curve is for the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, about 70-80 kilometers north of New York City. It’s a small town, so there has hardly been any change there since 1900. The same was true for New York, up to about 1900. After that, it grew warmer there, because of the urban construction, especially of high-rise apartment buildings. They altered the micro-climate. And thus, in this case, the temperature rose by about 2°C. In other words, when interpreting these curves, you have to pay very close attention to the Urban Heat Island Effect.”

But you need to evaluate the individual segments
not only qualitatively, but also quantitatively. This results in temperatures first getting somewhat warmer, and then somewhat more intensely cooler; then there is a stronger warming again, followed by another cooling; and this warming has to do with solar insolation. “Sometimes neighboring regions show synchronous changes, and sometimes they diverge. It’s also important that there are some time periods of greater importance, during which there is parallel and approximately simultaneous warming or cooling.” Thus, between 1920 and 1950 there was warming, while between 1950 and 1980 there was cooling. “The cooling phase begins pretty much simultaneously with the increased CO₂ production. But if CO₂ actually caused warming, the opposite would should have been the case.”

At about 76% of the weather stations, there was an average warming of 0.006°C per year, i.e., 0.6° per century, “and that includes the Urban Heat Island Effect; if you take the latter into account, the rise is only about 0.4° per century. Now, that’s not very much, and really has nothing to do with climate change.”

What is astounding, is that no one has ever even defined what climate change is, or at what point temperature fluctuation becomes climate change. For example, the difference in average temperature between Frankfurt and Berlin is 0.8°C, whereas between Frankfurt and Milan it’s almost 4°. “So we can say that the climate in Berlin and Frankfurt is more or less the same; at least, the difference is not very great. The differences between Frankfurt and Milan are quite large, of course, and Milan has a different climate than Frankfurt. Which is to say: In order to have actual climate change, we need at least a couple of degrees; a couple tenths of a degree are not sufficient. But we haven’t been talking here about anything more than a change of a couple tenths of a degree; nothing more than that has occurred. And thus, we don’t have any global climate change; all we have are small, periodic temperature fluctuations.”

**CO₂ Is a Building-Block of Life, Not a Poison**

The so-called greenhouse effect is a hotly contested topic among physicists. “For practical purposes, there is little difference whether it exists at all, or whether its effect is very minimal. But what is important here, is the fact that it’s often solely CO₂ that is spoken of as a climate-influencing gas. The most important climate-influencing gas is water vapor! And this we certainly have in widely varying concentrations. But the question remains: Are we, then, the cause of this warming? And I think the facts say ‘no.’”

Whenever Der Spiegel, Die Welt, or Stern want to show how bad the CO₂ has become, “they typically run photos of cooling towers spewing white smoke.… But this white smoke is water vapor. CO₂ is invisible—you can’t see it! CO₂ is colorless and odorless; it is incom bustible and non-toxic. But our children are told at school that CO₂ is harmful, and often they go so far as to tell them it’s poisonous! That, ladies and gentlemen, is a crime against our young people!” Because CO₂ is the basic building-block of life.

“Every animal body, including our own, is 9% carbon dioxide. We breathe it in, we breathe it out, it makes plants grow, and so forth. To say that CO₂ is harmful or poisonous, is absolutely terrible; you just can’t do that. And I think we have to really work toward ensuring that this doesn’t happen. CO₂ is of volcanic origin; it is generated by the weathering of stone; it is generated by the burning of coal; it is generated by the decomposition of biomass. And, above all, CO₂ is the building-block for
plants and animals. . . . And therefore, CO$_2$ is the beginning of the food chain, so demonizing it isn’t allowed!” In the Netherlands, plants are even aerated with CO$_2$ in order to accelerate their growth.

The IPCC claims that beginning in 2000, the concentration of CO$_2$ in the air was constant, but that over the last few decades it has risen (Figure 7). “In Al Gore’s movie [‘An Inconvient Truth’], he climbs up a ladder to show how high CO$_2$ concentration is going to get in the future. Why? The IPCC says: We do not take into account the directly measured chemical CO$_2$ content [of atmospheric air]. So, the IPCC ordains that directly measured chemical CO$_2$ content must not be considered! Why? Because if they considered it, they would not get this result.”

But it is indeed possible, via chemical analysis, to determine what the CO$_2$ content of air has been since 1810. In 2007, Hans-Georg Beck published a paper analyzing directly measured chemical CO$_2$ content (Figure 8). He took 90,000 individual measured values from 180 studies, analyzed them, and arrived at the conclusion that they were much higher earlier than they are today. For example, the 11-year average around 1830-40 was more than 400 parts per million; after that, it went down again, then went up again, and so forth.

Most of all, it is important to point out that there is an aperiodicity—i.e., there is no dependent relation between CO$_2$ content of the air and temperature, as you can see in the five-year average temperature in Basel, which he also used in his study.

The atmosphere’s CO$_2$ concentration is currently 0.038%. “Ninety-five percent of that, i.e., 0.0361%, comes from the life cycle. The human component is 5%, which is 0.018%, and Germany’s share is 0.00005%. You’ve got to let that figure dissolve on your tongue or, bounce on your ear-drum: Germany’s share of CO$_2$ production is 0.00005%. And if we in Germany were to completely halt all CO$_2$ emissions by 2050, this would lower the temperature by about two hundredths of a degree—an amount which is neither perceptible, nor measurable.”

Ewert recalled the so-called Climategate scandal, in which thousands of e-mails were pilfered from the central computer of the Climate Research Unit (CRU) and released to the public. “The stolen data were analyzed by climate realists, and it turns out that the data had in fact been manipulated” in order to support the anthropogenic climate change theory.

He also referred to a study by U.S. meteorologists Joseph D’Aleo and Anthony Watts (“Surface Temperature Records: Policy-Driven Deception?”), who documented one of the manipulation techniques: “The data were worked up by the CRU and then passed on to the IPCC. In the subsequent process, not all the data were taken into account. Data from 4,500 land-based weather


stations in the arctic and on mountain-tops—i.e., in relatively cool locations—were separated out, and only data from 1,500 stations in (relatively warm) cities were considered, and thus were over-proportionately weighted. Warming during the 1990s was based on a statistical sleight-of-hand.”

“In D’Aleo’s and Watts’s study, there’s a link for accessing NASA’s data pool. It opens up to a world map with a red arrow, with which, for any region, you can open up a list of the weather stations located there. Clicking on a station opens up its temperature variation curve. By examining the curve, you can follow the changes in temperature…”

Curves from a total of 776 stations around the world were evaluated (Figure 9). The variation curves were classified into four types: warming (I-increasing) in El Obeid, Sudan; warming as a result of UHI (U) in Rio di Janeiro; cooling (D-decreasing) in Fort Archambault, Chad; and remaining the same on average, despite fluctuations (S) in Cape Town, South Africa. If anthropogenic CO₂ had been in effect, it should have caused a rise in temperature after 1950; but this cannot be detected in the representative examples here.

In the statistical tabulation for the entire world, which, at 74% of all stations worldwide, shows no overall change in temperature, you can see an alternation between warming and cooling phases, which corresponds rather precisely with the rhythm of solar insolation. “In the meantime, a quantitative analysis was begun, which demonstrated that since 1998, we have been cooling off again.”

Ewert then returned to the IPCC’s climate curve, and compared it with the long-term variation curve of the De Bilt weather station in Holland (Figure 10, bottom). “This warming is not real; it has been faked by means of an exaggerated scale on the temperature axis. When it is
displayed on a normal scale, none of this warming remains. During the pre-industrial era, there were warming periods that were much more rapid, and much stronger. This is shown by comparison, and by the example of the De Bilt variation curve—and other examples. Even before production of anthropogenic CO$_2$ began in 1950, there was warming between 1910 and 1950, and also after 1980; both warmings are approximately the same, and were caused by the Sun.” The fact that the old temperature data were ignored, is unacceptable!

“The UN’s dogma that ‘man is the culprit’ is not true,” Ewert concluded. “An expensive climate bureaucracy has been built up. We have an expensive climate-change tourism industry, and we have scenarios of CO$_2$-caused warming which are simply untrue. The specific warming did not occur; it has been faked. Senseless and ruinous measures have been carried out. And for whom? For a chimera.

“The facts are: Ever since the Little Ice Age, we have been warming up again. We don’t have global climate change; what we have are normal temperature fluctuations. We have had parallel cooling and warming episodes. No CO$_2$ influence can be detected. Since 2000, we have been cooling off again. And, data have been manipulated in order to fake a warming trend: Climategate. The IPCC’s scenarios are failures. And in conclusion, ladies and gentlemen, this analysis can be verified—any one of you can do it!”