

Poll Results 2020

Qutr#1: NASA ISS and Artemis planning for the next decade.

Senators propose extending Space Station's life to 2030 in NASA Authorization Bill [space.com, by Elizabeth Howell, November 11, 2019] Artemis Phase 1: As of 2019, all Artemis missions will be launched on the Space Launch System (SLS) from Kennedy Space Center Launch Complex 39B [Wikipedia]...to reach Lunar surface by 2024. Do you think this is a reasonable schedule?

Yes, reasonable: -

No, too ambitious: 100%

Qutr#2: What should we call the Men and Women of Space Force?

Rick N. Tumlinson: "I believe the best name for Space Force members is "Spacer". It combines simplicity and gender neutrality with the ability to apply it specifically to the enlisted ranks."

J. Kehr (Editor) likes the argument – however, you don't beat the gender-question, e.g. in German "Spacer" carries a male connotation (der Spacer). I like the proposal "Spaceman" because it would be used anyway and it would not go away as with "manned spaceflight" versus "human spaceflight"

Spaceman: -

Spacer: 100%

Qutr#3: Covid-19 Pandemic Influence on Space Industries.

AIRBUS is announcing laying-off 15.000 employees, Boeing plans 10% staff reduction, Lufthansa (26.000 jobs at risk) and BMW (6.000 job cuts) are planning similar measures because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Space Industries (e.g., SpaceX is flourishing) could absorb or compensate those job-losses in the long run. Do you think public and commercial Space exploration and science activities budgets in the USA and Europe will be affected by the Covid-19 crises, by:

Budget increase: 66%

Stable budget: 33%

Budget reduction: -

Qutr#4: Space Debris

Mega-constellations of satellites, such as Elon Musk's Starlink, are being put into orbit; by one estimate, at the current rate, there will be fifty thousand new satellites serving the Internet in ten years. A decommissioned telescope and a defunct military satellite missed each other by roughly fifty feet. In May, a twenty-ton Chinese rocket nearly fell into the USA, instead smashing into the Atlantic off West Africa—a reminder that there are huge masses moving at immense speeds not so far above the surface of the Earth. Almost simultaneously, a Russian Fregat rocket blew up hundreds of miles above the Indian Ocean. As best as could be discerned, it fragmented into sixty-five more pieces. The NORAD catalogue had to be updated.

Would you think active Space Debris removal by a joint effort of all spacefaring nations should start right now with a much higher priority than creating a race of humans to the Moon?

Yes, highest priority: 20%

No: 80%