

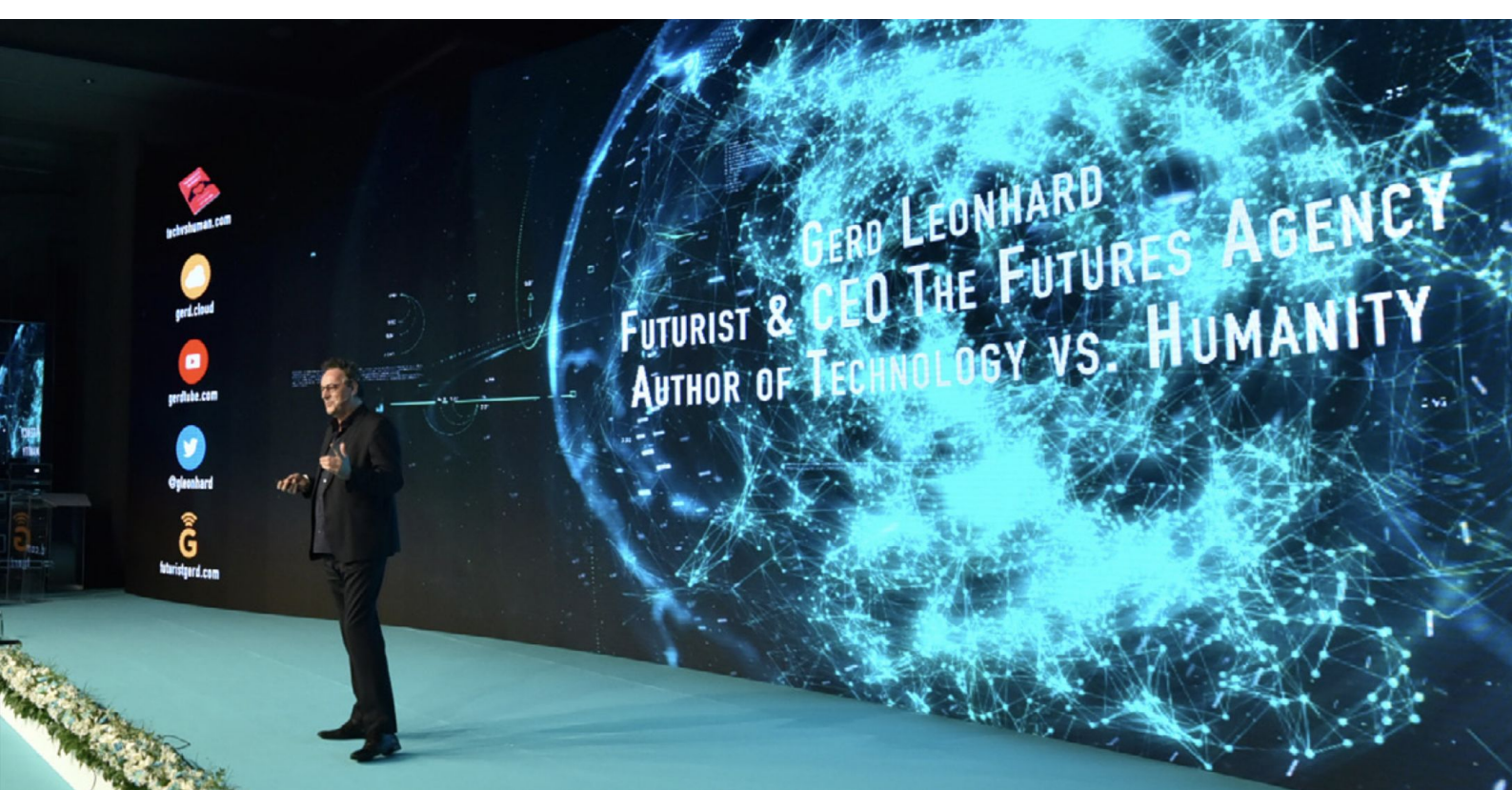
A black and white portrait of Gerd Leonhard, a man with glasses and a slight smile, wearing a dark jacket. The background is a light gray gradient.

LISTED ON
TOP 100
WIRED

GERD LEONHARD

Futurist & Humanist | Keynote Speaker | Author
CEO The Futures Agency

"Civilizations are driven by their technology but defined by their humanity"



“People, Planet, Purpose and Prosperity.” - That is Gerd Leonhard’s motto. Over the past two decades, he has risen to one of the top 10 futurist keynote speakers worldwide, and has recently become the [#1 virtual speaker](#) in the age of Corona. With nearly 2,000 engagements in 60+ countries since 2004, and a combined audience of over 2.5 million people, Gerd has been listed by Wired magazine as one of the Top 100 Most-Influential People in Europe, and as ‘one of the leading media futurists in the World’ by The Wall Street Journal.

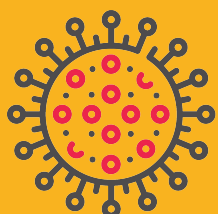
Gerd focuses on the intersections of humanity, science / technology, business, and culture. He promotes sustainable, human-centric values, and emphasizes the importance of foresight, future-ready leadership, and resilience in the face of uncertainty. He is also known for speaking out against the pitfalls of unbridled extractionist capitalism. His acclaimed keynotes (both live and virtual) are renowned for their hard-hitting and provocative style - inspiring, humorous, motivational, and always personal. Using cutting-edge creative motion design and immersive backdrops, Gerd’s performances (both in-person and for online events) have reinvented the very definition of ‘presentation.’

Gerd is highly regarded as a global influencer and has advised business leaders and government officials around the globe.

His diverse list of clients include countless governments, NGOs and Fortune 500 companies such as SAP, Microsoft, Google, VISA, Accenture, Deloitte, Motorola, KPMG, Sony, UBS, Tetrapak, Mastercard, BBC, Unilever, Lloyds Bank, WWF, Sony, The Guardian, PwC, Siemens, RTL, The Financial Times, Ogilvy, Omnicom, The EU Commission, Audi and many others. A true thought leader in the futurist space, Gerd is above all a dedicated humanist who believes that all technological progress should further collective human flourishing.

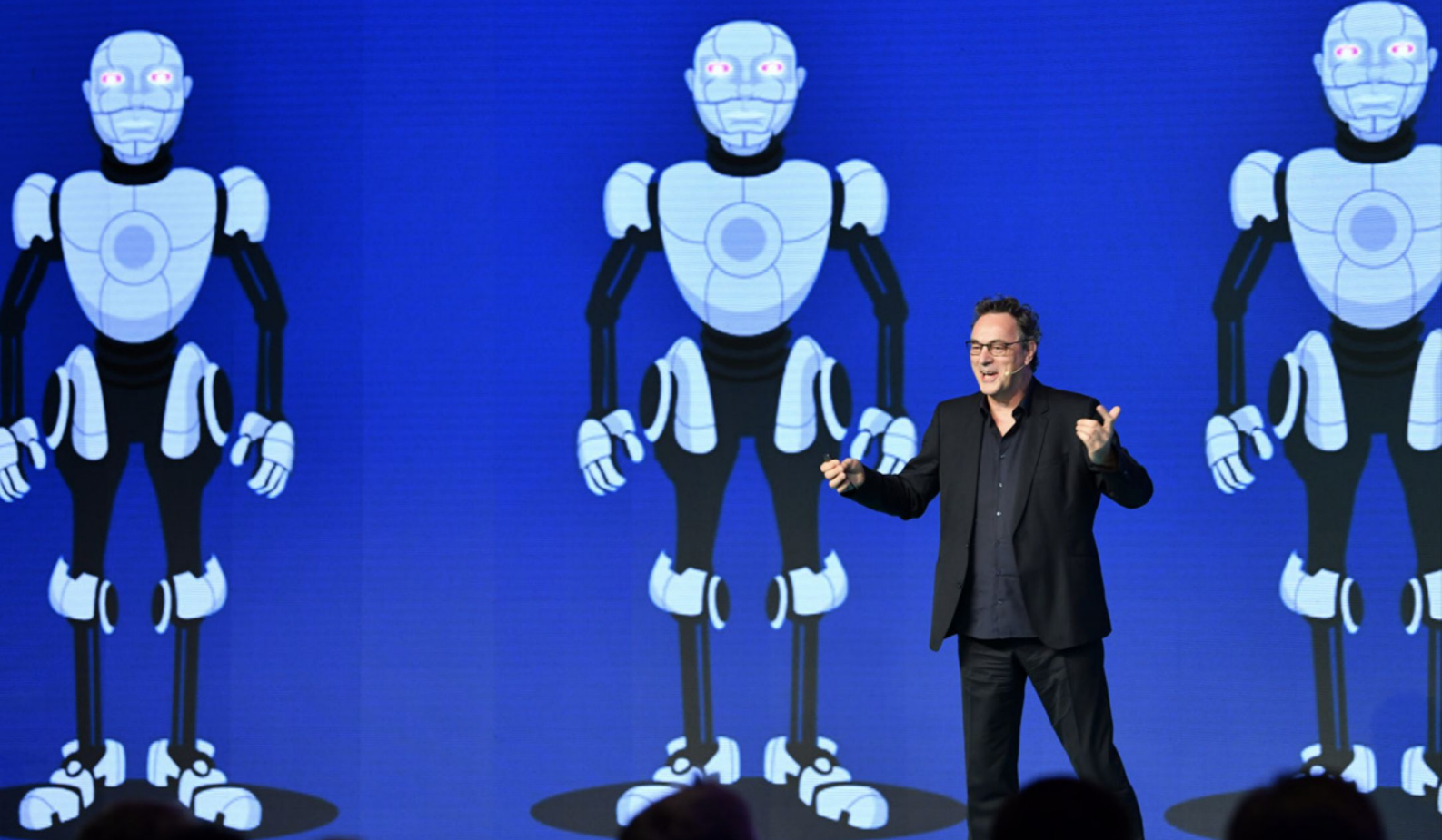
Gerd uses his keynotes, presentations, workshops and advisory sessions to deep-dive on complex topics. Recurring themes include business in the post-Covid-19 world, the need for a sustainable, equitable reform to conventional capitalism, addressing existential risks like climate change and uncontrolled technological proliferation, the future of work and of the human-machine relationship, exploring what it means to be human in a world of machines and algorithms, and the ethics of technology and tech regulation in an interconnected world. As Gerd likes to say, humanity will change more in the next 10 years than in the previous 100 years – so let’s embrace technology but also maintain, protect and nurture what makes us human!

You can learn more about Gerd’s work, acclaimed keynotes, and 2021 speaking topics [here](#).



The Future Beyond Corona: what to expect in the next 3-5 years #1 topic 2021

Our world has been dramatically rebooted by the covid19 crisis – and there is no ‘going back to normal’, anytime soon. This crisis feels devastating to many of us yet I think it also creates a unique opening for what I like to call The Great Transformation. This keynote can be held virtually, as a digital keynote, or in-person. [Learn more here.](#)



As a professional artist, internet entrepreneur, film producer, bestselling author, and visionary thinker and speaker, Gerd Leonhard has spent his lifetime engaging with change. Gerd's background is in the music business; in 1985 he won Berklee College's 'Quincy Jones Award' and subsequently spent 12 years working as a professional guitarist, composer, and producer. But in 1995 he caught the internet-bug, seeing the future of music as being in the cloud, and became a digital music & media entrepreneur.

From 1995 to 2002 he raised Millions as Founder/CEO of several San Francisco-based internet startups. In 2002, following the dotcom meltdown and the 9/11 crisis, Gerd returned to Europe, wrote his first book (The Future of Music) and became increasingly in demand as keynote speaker as he discovered his new calling as a futurist and as the CEO of The Futures Agency, a global network of over 50 leading futurists, speakers, and personalities. As he likes to say: The future is already here – we just haven't paid enough attention!

As we rush headlong into a machine-led world where the very essence of what it means to be human is being increasingly challenged, Gerd reminds us to consider what moral values we are prepared to stand up for before "being human" loses its meaning forever.

Between traveling around the globe and teleporting-in virtually to speak at leading conferences, events and seminars, Gerd helps individuals, enterprises and government organizations to deal with 'future shock' and embrace change. When he is not speaking or consulting clients, Gerd is also an influential, bestselling author. He co-authored the visionary book 'The Future of Music' and has written five others, including his last bestseller, 'Technology vs. Humanity', which is now available in ten languages.

Gerd's films on the future of technology and humanity, digital transformation, artificial intelligence and work, jobs and education have reached millions of viewers and as a highly sought after futurist, he is no stranger to media, frequently sharing his often controversial but always prescient views with pieces in The Guardian, Harvard Business Review, Business Insider, Wired UK, and interviews with the likes of BBC, CNN, Arirang TV, Swiss SRF, ZDF, ARD, ARTE. He has also been included as a special guest in over a dozen documentaries, is a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts (RSA, London), and an advisory board member of the Indian and Canadian Research Institutes. Today, Gerd resides in Zürich, Switzerland and presents both in English and German.

You can read Gerd Leonhard's 2021 speaking topics [here](#).

GERD LEONHARD

LEADING VIRTUAL KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Virtual Keynotes and Remote Presentations

Gerd Leonhard is a top-rated and constantly innovating futurist, keynote speaker and presenter, **both in real-life and on actual stages** as well as in **virtual or digital-only environments such as Zoom**. Presenting online or remotely is an entirely different cup of tea – and one that Gerd has been practicing since 2013, long before the **Corona-Crisis** and the global shift to **'remote everything'**.

For his 100% digital talks (the speaker as well as the audience), Gerd is reinventing the very definition of keynote speaking, constantly adapting to this new medium: Less focus on **the good old, linear-style keynote** or powerpoint slides, no more just 'talking heads', no more lengthy monologues but hard-hitting and to-the-point content, deeply immersive and on-demand **virtual backgrounds**, a cinematic approach to virtual stage and event designs, a dazzling variety of live- interaction options with the audience and other speakers (**Q&A, polls, chats**, shared media, live social media feeds, call-ins etc.) and overall a much shorter format with more focussed and entertaining content designed specifically for online audiences.

LEARN MORE

WORD OF MOUTH FROM AROUND THE WORLD

"Working with Gerd was an excellent experience, and he definitely pushed our executives' thinking forward. Not only did he outline major technological and societal trends affecting our business, he did so in a way that was engaging and personal."

Adam Carroll, Inter Public Group

"Gerd Leonhard distinguishes from other futurists through his emphasis on the human factor in the story between man and machine. While some focus on predicting what technology will bring soon, he actively searches a positive story for humanity and he clearly sets limits on technology."

Kristoff Vandermeersch, HR Expo

"Eye-opening, thought-provoking, brilliant..... Gerd's visionary speech challenges the very core of our beliefs, he can link seemingly unrelated trends and deliver a presentation in engaging and entertaining fashion."

Dana Kršáková, Michal Ivantýšyn, ITAPA Slovakia

"Gerd allows the audience to travel to and from the future. The result remains long after the conference, when you rewind his presentations after a few years, and see it happening in front of your eyes. I had the pleasure to hire Gerd when I was at Pestana Hotel Group, and this specific event reached the highest score ever in 4 decades. Gerd is a pleasure to work with, and I highly recommend his services."

Nuno Ferreira Pires, SPORT.TV

"Your presentation was a huge success. You managed to scare delegates to death and give them hope at the same time – quite a feat and exactly what they needed! Thank you also for crafting your ideas so that it tied very directly into our business, rather than being just a rehash of a standard presentation."

Clive Viegas Bennett, MGI Worldwide

"Gerd really made a big difference to our event because when he speaks about the future changes, technology, behaviors, he worries about connecting all of these changes with the audience reality, showing that it is possible to succeed, as humans, in this new world. He connects to the audience in a way that we feel that there is space for both humans and technology to live together."

Patricia Bastos, Tetra Pak



www.futuristgerd.com main site

www.gerdleonhard.de German site

www.gerdtube.com (videos) www.gerd.cloud
(all of Gerd's shared files)

www.thefuturesagency.com (company)

Contact: mobile +41 79 793 53 84

gerd@thefuturesagency.com



"The future is no longer a time-frame; it's a MINDSET"