

Euromines UPDATE

15 July 2021

Internal News Update for Euromines Members

Not for public discussion

Secretariat Update & Upcoming Euromines Meetings

New colleagues joining Euromines Secretariat

It is our pleasure to announce that two new colleagues are joining the Euromines team. **Cynthia Mestanza** started on 1st July as the new Environment, Health and Safety Officer and **Florian Anderhuber** will start 1st September as Energy and Climate Manager. With the support of the chairs of the respective committees and the consent of President and Vice-Presidents two experts were selected.

Cynthia Mestanza is an experienced Environmental Engineer with around 13 years of experience working in the field of Environment, Health & Safety. Florian Anderhuber has gathered extensive experience in EU public affairs, both from a corporate angle as a manager and currently as the Head of Aurubis Representative Office in Brussels.

We are welcoming our new team members!

More information on [Euromines website](https://www.euromines.org).



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Extraordinary Euromines General Assembly

All members are welcome to join the Extraordinary Euromines General Assembly meeting

to be held on 14th September 16.30-18.00h (CET).

For members, who have not had the opportunity to register for the meeting yet, we look forward to receiving your confirmation by email.

A WebEx invitation has been sent out. Please also find, below, the link giving you access to the meeting:
<https://euromines.webex.com/join/kuby>

The main topics of this Extraordinary General Assembly will be **the financial and administrative matters and the secretariat update.**

Please do not forget to register! In case of interest, please send an email to Azi bairami@euromines.be

Energy Committee Meeting

on **Thursday 9th September 2021** from 14:00 – 16:00 CET. [WebEx link.](#)

Sustainable Finance Task Force Meeting

on Friday 10th September 2021 from 11:30 – 12:30 CET. [WebEx link](#).

Euromines Committees Overview is available [here](#).

Policy

European Innovation Partnership (EIP) on Raw Materials has renewed its membership

The new mandates of the EIP groups have been recently renewed and are available in the public site of RegExpt. Check out the new members of the [High Level Steering Group with its Sherpa sub-group](#) and the [Commission operational expert group](#).

Euromines is represented in both, the High level steering group – Mark Rachovides, Euromines President, as well as in the Commission operational expert group - Rolf Kuby, Euromines Director.

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European Parliament voted on European strategy for Critical Raw Materials

The European Parliament Environment Committee has voted on 28th June on the opinion on “European strategy for critical raw materials”. The draft Opinion was approved with 45 votes in favour, 7 against and 24 abstentions. The abstentions were tabled by ID, EPP and Renew Europe MEPs because of disagreement with compromise amendment 10. Unfortunately, our main CA 10 concerns were not heard, and the final text is still banning mining in Natura 2000 areas. It recalled the prevention of mining in protected areas as provided in Natura 2000 and other supranational conventions and called the Commission to amend the relevant articles of the Birds and Habitats Directives. In addition, the political groups, while recalling the Commission's commitment to not exploit marine minerals in international seabeds, encouraged the Commission to translate the commitment into real actions. Lastly, the political groups underlined the cruciality of ensuring local communities effective and inclusive participation throughout all stages of mining projects. We have confirmation that EPP, parts of Renew and hopefully more MEPs from different groups will oppose this position in Plenary.

In addition, political groups highlighted the need to reduce material consumption to reduce the pressure on CRM supply chains and called on the Commission to prioritise the transition towards a circular economy by reducing EU imports dependence and improving resource efficiency and consumption of raw materials within the EU. The political groups recalled the importance of science-

based targets for 2030 to reduce EU material consumption footprints and to be adopted by the end of 2021 as part of the updated monitoring framework.

Next steps are the voting in ITRE (27 September 2021) and in Plenary (November 2021). We need to increase our contacts to S&D and explain our position. S&D will make the difference in the Plenary voting.

Opposition to mining in Europe

Challenges have largely increased since the **opposition to mining in Europe is growing**. Green NGOs have been campaigning against mining in the EU with slogans like: ["We can't mine our way out of the climate crisis"](#). Commission DG GROW is positioning inside of the Commission and supports a sustainable mining activity in the EU, but other DGs voice that no mining activity should be allowed in Natura 2000 areas. **Commission's process of developing a Taxonomy for Sustainable Finance lacks accountability, transparency and a due process in this whole exercise.**

Together with Eurometaux, CEMBUREAU, CEFIC and Eurofer we support a joint action (letter) with a very punchy message of complaint about the process and governance and an overall spirit of discussions that contradict the objectives of industrial resilience and investments. This could eventually include a clear signal that we could all step out if there is no significant correction brought to the process.

Sustainable Finance

Taxonomy for mining Industry delayed

The work of Sector Team 2 (ST2) has been delayed to a batch 2 that will probably start its work in Autumn after the public consultation. Today no proposal from ST2 are forwarded for public consultation. Chair and Rapporteurs decided this to allow the proposals to be more substantial since today almost no quantitative criteria's have been agreed on in ST2. The work up to now is not lost but will need the right level of robustness for the batch 2. It will be necessary to analyse the outcome of the public consultation and what has been successful for sectors covered.

The delay is a good chance to reflect how mining can proceed with the criteria for substantial contribution (e.g. biodiversity, water, climate mitigation). The Commission has announced that they will come back with more details on batch 2 after the external consultation. The Euromines Sustainable Finance Task Force will reconvene for a meeting on 10th September.

New sustainability reporting obligations on the horizon

To complement the Sustainable Finance universe and for aligning the different reporting obligations under NFRD/CSRD, Taxonomy and SFDR and to increase data transparency between the real economy and the financial sector needs, the Commission published a new Draft Delegated Act. For non-financial companies that fall under the remit of the NFRD (future CSRD), the act and annexes describe:

- ⇒ A methodology to define KPIs (taxonomy aligned turnover, OpEx, CapEx as ratio of total turnover, CapEx and OpEx) to quantify a company's taxonomy-aligned activities based on the Climate Delegated Act and the future Environmental Delegated Act, which will be publicly disclosed: this shall be related to assets or processes associated with environmentally sustainable economic activities;
- ⇒ Disclosure of environmental objectives;
- ⇒ A template in which to report.

After consultations with ESAs and other stakeholders, the Commission is convinced that by forcing companies to disclose their taxonomy aligned revenue, CapEx and OpEx, it is possible to create an entire ecosystem of sustainable finance tools, including standards, labels and access to sustainability data.

From 1 January 2022 until January 2023 key performance indicators (turnover, Capex Opex) shall cover only the objectives of climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation until twelve months after the date of application of the delegated regulations that contain the technical screening criteria for the other environmental objectives. Besides the KPIs, companies will also have to provide contextual information (quantitative and qualitative) as well as CapEx plans for future investments into sustainable activities.

Besides the real economy, the delegated act also sets out obligations for different financial actors, funds, credit agencies, banks and insurance companies how to assess the sustainability of their portfolio. This will increase pressure and public scrutiny and will likely enforce changes in investment habits, which will lead to difficulties to access their capital/services if at least the planning of a company is not showing alignment with Sustainable Finance objectives.

For the mining sector, the review of the CSRD will be crucial to avoid undue harmful impact and to ensure consistency on reporting and transparency obligations:

- ⇒ Primordial will be the targets and the field of activity within which we can provide a substantial contribution (or can step-up to become taxonomy-aligned).
- ⇒ Thus, the screening criteria will be major focus point to define how we can refinance ourselves in the future.
- ⇒ They will also form a potential point of attack during general assemblies.
- ⇒ Legal implications could become interesting as well as environmental protection overlaps here with investor protection and data requirements.

EU Industry

The Strategic Partnership EU – Ukraine

The start of long-standing cooperation: EU and Ukraine sign a Strategic Partnership on Raw Materials and welcome a new member of ERMA

The Strategic Partnership on Critical Raw Materials was on 13 July 2021 between the EU and Ukraine. At the High Level Conference, **Vice-President Šefčovič said**: *'Ukraine is well placed to become a strong player in critical raw materials and batteries. As we indeed move towards climate-neutral and digital societies, many key sectors – such as renewables, electronics, transport, aerospace and defence – will depend on a reliable and sustainable supply of raw materials at competitive costs.'*

The Memorandum of Understanding sets the political framework with a roadmap of initial actions to advance the goals of the partnership defined under the three MoU workstreams:

- ⇒ Harmonisation of UA and EU regulatory mining frameworks and application of the sustainable mining principles.
- ⇒ Integration of (critical) raw materials and battery value chains by facilitating joint venture projects and business opportunities.
- ⇒ Closer collaboration in Research & Innovation along critical raw materials and batteries value chains utilising Horizon Europe and other EU programmes relating to raw materials and batteries.

Euromines President, Mark Rachovides joined the conference as one of the panelists and highlighted: *'This Strategic Partnership between the Ukraine and the European Union is significant step towards realisation of the EU Green Deal. The process of shifting from carbon-based to renewable energy sources reiterates that raw materials are indispensable to our future.'*

Among the list of actions, the European Union and Ukraine will identify and conduct joint-venture projects for industrial and investment actors. The integration of sustainable raw materials and battery value chains will not happen on its own, and the role of a strong network and collaboration will be crucial in this process. The partners will promote active participation among their respective stakeholders in the European industrial alliances, notably the European Raw Materials Alliance (ERMA) and the European Battery Alliance, as platforms to collaborate and develop investment projects.

Strategic partnerships on raw materials with resource-rich third countries

Last September, the Commission adopted the Critical Raw Materials action plan, presenting ten concrete actions to tackle vulnerabilities in the raw materials supply chains. The action plan announced that the EU should engage in strategic partnerships with resource-rich third countries, making use of all external policy instruments and respecting its international obligations.

The partnership with Canada received the political endorsement at the [EU-Canada summit on the 14-15 June](#). The partnership aims at advancing the value, security, and sustainability of trade and investment into resilient raw materials and downstream value chains across both Canada and the EU. The areas for cooperation are: Integration of Canada-EU Raw Materials Value Chains; Science, Technology and Innovation and Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Criteria, and Standards.

RawMaterials Summit 2021 highlighted the fundamental role of raw materials

On 17 June, RawMaterials Summit 2021 gathered Europe's foremost industry leaders, entrepreneurs, policymakers and academics from across the raw materials value chain to showcase innovation enabling the EU Green Deal goal for a carbon-neutral future.

The event received great recognition from the European Commission as Mariya Gabriel, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, opened the event and Thierry Breton, Commissioner for Internal Market, and Maroš Šefčovič, Vice President for Interinstitutional Relations and Foresight, gave a keynote speech to start the session dedicated to the European Raw Materials Alliance (ERMA). The presence of EU stakeholders highlights the pressing need for sustainable access to resources as fundamental for the industry and the twin transition of the EU economy.

Christel Bories, CEO of ERAMET, Jan Moström, CEO of LKAB, Javier Targhetta, President of Atlantic Copper; Senior Vice President Marketing & Sales at Freeport-McMoRan, An Steegen, CTO at Umicore, joined the session as members of the ERMA network. The highlight of the session was a need to foster collaboration, improve traceability of value chains, invest in research and innovation, and adopt the legal framework to support industry transition to a circular economy. The work of the two Clusters of the European Raw Materials Alliance (ERMA) developing action plans and the investment pipeline will be crucial to make this happen.

Jan Moström, CEO, LKAB said: *"It doesn't matter what you want to do, the fact is that all of it starts in the mine. The green transition will lead to increased recycling, but since the transition creates a rapidly increasing need for metals, recycling will not be enough. Everything that can be recycled must be recycled. We must also carefully analyze each material and each process to find what is the most sustainable recycling or use of virgin material."*

Euromines was the media partner of this event.

Energy and Climate

Fit for 55 Package published

The Commission published its long awaited [Fit for 55 program – a mega-package of 12 regulatory instruments to cut EU greenhouse gas emissions by 55% by 2030](#). It is the most ambitious climate legislation ever unveiled in the world, focusing on reducing emissions, incentivizing companies to invest in clean technologies and turning the EU climate neutral by 2050. The main means are increasing the price on carbon and providing a premium on decarbonizing – with a strong priority on the former. In its nature, the package legislative proposals will have a systemic impact on all aspects of energy production, transmission, use and energy intensive industries.

The package will define the work programme for the upcoming 18-24 months. Given the high visibility, the political clout behind it and the societal scrutiny with which these measures are awaited and analysed, will require a major effort from Secretariat, counting on the support of members!

The main elements are:

1) ETS Reform

The Commission foresees a radical supply crunch until 2030, which will have a negative impact on competitiveness and carbon leakage protection for the mining sector. Based on the fact that mining is only covered for free allowances and not indirect cost compensation (a change in the carbon leakage list is not foreseen) the first assessment looks not very encouraging:

- Overall, the amount of certificates will be drastically reduced, which will increase prices and reduce availability of certificates and thus free allowances.
- There is no tiering proposed, but sectoral reduction will be achieved by conditionality (energy audits) and drastically increased benchmarks.
 - The current benchmark improvement rate will increase from 1.6% to 2.5% which constitute a 50% reduction of free allowances (which is part of a general ambition to phase out free allowances)
 - This will apply to those that have the maximum benchmark improvement rate or are covered by fallback benchmarks such as mining.
- In addition, the inclusion of maritime transport will increase the pressure on ETS price and increase transportation costs (and will render exports more expensive)
- Given the reduction of the general amount of allowances in circulation and free allowances, we can expect
 - A drastic increase in prices (analysts estimate already 100€/t CO₂ or more) due to the supply crunch (probably starting 2024)
 - A more volatile market with increased speculation
- Good news that process emissions seems to be untouched. Verifying and ensuring that product benchmarks and process emissions really would keep the same level (esp. later in EP discussion)

This will be a critical piece of legislation, determining the strategic outlook, investments and competitiveness for the energy intensive industry, including the mining sector.

Going forward, we will focus on

- **Benchmarks** given that activities without product benchmark (e.g. based on fallback benchmarks) will see free allocations reduced by 50%.
- **Indirect cost compensation:** continue advocacy for inclusion in indirect cost compensation and explore alternative mechanisms that won't require disbursement of funds (e.g. CBAM or contracts for difference?).

2) Carbon Border Adjustment (CBAM)

The Commission set out in clear terms that a CBAM shall gradually replace the current carbon leakage mechanism of direct allocation and indirect cost compensation. The proposal for now focuses mainly on the phase-out of the direct allocation of ETS certificates and leaves the possibility open to re-evaluate how a CBAM mechanism can cover indirect cost compensation as well.

It is foreseen that after a transition period from 2023 to 2025 during which selected sectors (steel, cement, electricity, aluminium) will be subject to CBAM, the Commission plans to gradually introduce other sectors.

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- Over a 10 year period starting 2026, direct allocation of ETS certificates will be gradually phased out by 10 percentage points each year accompanied by a phase-in into CBAM.
- Direct allocation and CBAM however could co-exist to the extent that CBAM does not cover the full carbon leakage exposure.
- The inclusion of indirect CO₂-costs will await further evaluation – for now they are excluded of the CBAM proposal. This will require an adaptation of the ETS guidelines after 2025.

CBAM represents a huge change in the decarbonization regulatory architecture of the EU. Down the road, the ambition will be to include other sectors, including mining under a CBAM. Even if this will only be the case at the earliest in 2026, we will have to start setting the scene in the European Council and Parliament to maintain a degree of free allocation during the phase-in and maybe beyond, and on a technical level, how a CBAM indirect carbon cost coverage could be beneficial for mining.

3) Energy Efficiency Directive

Energy efficiency remains a key area of action. The Commission's proposal of the review of the Energy Efficiency Directive foresees an increase in the level of ambition at EU level in terms of savings through energy efficiency and make this EU savings target binding. Member states target levels should be flexible, calculated with a new formula based on GDP per capita to account for different starting points.

The new target is based not anymore on a ratio describing energy efficiency but on reducing energy consumption – 9% by 2030 to reach in absolute terms an EU end energy consumption of 787 Mtoe and 1023 Mtoe primary energy consumption.

Member states shall provide pathways to reach this savings-goal, following certain measures laid out in the directive, with a stronger focus on cross-sectoral actions and an inclusion of the public sector. Savings that would have occurred anyway shall in the future not count towards achieving the energy savings requirements but only net savings, measured as the change of energy consumption that is directly attributable to energy efficiency measures. To that end, member states shall:

- Establish a baseline scenario of how the situation would evolve in the absence of measures;
- Evaluation of the impact of the policy measure against that baseline.

While there is an acknowledgement that decarbonization through electrification may in some cases lead to a higher end-energy consumption, the proposal in general is a worrisome trend. The energy intensive industry is explicitly mentioned as one of the sectors having made substantial improvements in energy efficiency, however the stringency of savings obligations and leeway of member states is drastically reduced.

4) Energy Taxation Directive

The proposal of the Commission to review the Energy Taxation Directive has taken up some major elements the energy intensive industry was advocating for:

- Maintaining unanimity for most elements of the directive;
- Exemptions and reductions continue to exist;
- The Commission abstained from the option to tax carbon content of products to avoid a double-taxation for the ETS-sectors.

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However, the change in methodology in the Energy Taxation Directive to charge not anymore volume but energy content of the fuels used will likely to have a negative impact if exemptions are phased out. Importantly, the next steps will be to clarify where a qualified majority is allowed and under which circumstances unanimity is necessary to avoid a strengthening of this Directive.

5) Review of the Renewable Energy Directive

The circulated draft will also introduce some greater changes in the field of energy intensive industries. A new target will come by 2030, raising the ambition level from 32% to 38-40%, a new regime to deal with guarantees of origin in a more uniform and impactful way, and new targets for industry – including mining. These targets however are not yet spelled out in the text. Regarding hydrogen, the text asks for new requirements under which production and use of hydrogen can be considered green.

The full impact on the mining sector requires still further analysis in conjunction with the other elements of the Fit for 55 package.

Other elements

Other elements of the package include:

- A review of the Effort Sharing directive;
- A proposal for improving quality/quantity carbon sinks;
- A social climate fund to alleviate the most onerous effects on low-income households;

- A proposal each for maritime and aviation fuel;
- CO2 emission standards for transport.

Environment

Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) Review

Our response to the targeted consultation was sent on 9 April. We replied in line with our position paper. Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) Review

A longer position paper against inclusion of our sector under IED was prepared in cooperation with Environment Committee members. We gathered examples from member companies that demonstrate that mining activities cause only low or moderate emissions. The final position paper (the Position Paper is available on [Euromines website](#)) was sent to the IED consultant. Our sector was not invited by the consultant for any targeted interviews yet as was announced initially. For now, only those sectors that are already under IED have been interviewed. On 7 July, a stakeholder workshop took place. Slides and Q&A will be published soon on <https://ee.ricardo.com/industrial-emissions-directive-revision-consultation>.

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EU Risk Management Study

For this DG Environment project (led by Mr. Wimmer) we formed an internal Mirror Group with participants from our Environment and H&S Committees to discuss and reply to the targeted questions per so called "Focus Area". Feedback was already delivered on Risk Management aspects for Focus Areas "Surface Mining", "Underground mining", and "Processing". Currently FA "Mine project" is being revised. Other Focus Areas will follow during July. From Q3 on into 2022 a more consolidated text will be prepared by the consultant consortium on which stakeholders (NGOs, independent Risk Management consultants, Environmental and Mining Authorities, and Extractive sector) are again invited to provide input.

EU Extractive Waste (EW) project

Euromines is involved since 2019 as consortium member in this project (together with Eco-Efficiency, VITO and others) and according to comments by project director Mr. Wimmer needed to gather in Q1 and Q2 missing information from non-metallic mining/quarrying sector, together with Extractive Waste licenses & EW Management Plans of metal and non-metal sectors. Discussions between DG Environment and consortium members about providing new publicly available EW information were challenging. The updated draft report needs to be delivered at the beginning of September 2021.

Priority Substances (PS) in surface water

Euromines and other sector associations co-signed a Procedural Concern Letter on procedures of selecting and revising Priority Substances under the Water Framework Directive. Main critics are the lack of transparency, cherry picking of available monitoring data by JRC/DG Env, and unworkable timelines.

On Priority Substance candidate Silver: the dossier and comments that were under dispute by experts were sent to an independent Scheer Committee, but no feedback was yet given. PS candidates Se and U will be discussed later in 2021. Besides Nickel, now also Mercury is placed by the Commission on the list for Environmental Quality Standard (EQS) revision of existing EQS.

Health & Safety

Occupational Health and Safety in the Spotlight

At the end of June, the Commission renewed its commitment to update occupational safety and health rules by adopting the EU strategic framework on health and safety at work 2021-2027. It sets out the key actions needed to improve workers' health and safety over the coming years. The update of the EU strategic framework on health and safety at work for 2021-2027 in light of the COVID-19 pandemic is part of the 2021 Commission Work Programme.

Recently Euromines was involved in the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Project aiming at identifying the gaps and needs of extractive SMEs and micro enterprises. This OHS project covers not only the traditional but also the new and emerging risks to occupational safety and health. The knowledge gathered has been used to develop training material and self-assessment tools to help employees comply with and to raise awareness for occupational health and safety legislation. To access the project website please [click here](#).

Employment and Social Developments in Europe review published by the European Commission

The 2021 edition of [the Employment and Social Developments in Europe \(ESDE\)](#) review provides an up-to-date economic analysis of the steps the EU is taking towards a strong social Europe, particularly in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis. This ESDE report shows that the social impact of the COVID-19 crisis has been uneven and diverse. Regional inequalities that already existed before the pandemic may have widened, according to the review. The 2021 ESDE highlights that in order not to jeopardise the success of the EU's response to the pandemic crisis, a strong social dimension needs to accompany our economic recovery.

Winner of EU salt Safety Award 2021 announced

Euromines' member association EUsalt officially announced the winner of the EUsalt Safety Award 2021. The winner is Schweizer Salinen with the project "One step towards lean safety". The multifaceted approach to health and safety at the workplace and the implementation of employee-oriented measures and user-friendly tools were particularly appreciated by the expert jury members.

Euromines congratulates the winner and the EUsalt association on their achievements and excellent work.

For more information please visit [Euromines website](#).

Communication

New Publications

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A review of European Union legal provisions on the environmental impact assessment of non-energy minerals extraction projects

In cooperation with DG GROW, DG ENV and distinguished experts the JRC has published a major milestone report on the legal requirements of preparing an environmental impact assessment of non-energy minerals extraction projects. The 200-page volume supports the harmonized implementation of the EIA Directive across Europe and along the various extraction types of the different mineral deposits.

The full Report is available [here](#).

Social Progress in Mining-Dependent Countries: Analysing the role of Resource Governance in delivering the UN Sustainable Development Goals (2021)

Building on previous ICMM research, this report finds that life in Mining Dependent Countries (MDCs) has improved significantly in the last 23 years. The report analyses 41 social metrics grouped under 12 relevant United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and finds that across three quarters of these metrics, there has been significant progress made on socio-economic development.

You can download the publication [here](#).

Safety Performance: Benchmarking progress of ICMM company members in 2020

Since 2012, ICMM has transparently measured and disclosed the safety performance of its company members. This benchmarking report aims to catalyse learning across the industry and transparently show where our members are towards their goal of eliminating fatalities. Over time, this data has informed leadership discussions about the step change required to reach this goal and supports an evidence-based approach to ICMM's work on health and safety.

You can download the publication [here](#).

European Innovation Scoreboard 2021

The European innovation scoreboard 2021 was released on 21 June 2021. This year's EIS report is also accompanied by the 2021 edition of the regional innovation scoreboard which provides comparable results for 240 regions in 22 EU countries.

To download the publication and/or the country profiles please click [here](#).

Material System Analysis of Nine Raw Materials: Barytes, Bismuth, Hafnium, Helium, Natural Rubber, Phosphorus, Scandium, Tantalum and Vanadium

A new JRC Technical Report "MSA of Nine Raw Materials" was recently published and can be downloaded at the RMIS' [MSA Reports page](#). It provides detailed MSA results of 9 critical raw materials: barytes, bismuth, hafnium, helium, natural rubber, elemental phosphorus, scandium, tantalum and vanadium.

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EU Environmental Policy to 2030: A Systemic Change – Video

What are the goals of the new EU Environment Action Plan to 2030 and what has to be done to achieve them? The European Parliament released today a short video on European Climate Action.

Watch the video [here](#).

Raising Awareness and Knowledge

It is essential that European citizens understand how European mineral raw materials contribute to their basic needs and improve their quality of life. Euromines objective is to bring minerals and mining closer to society, increase the general knowledge about the importance of the European mining industry and bridge the gap between the highly technical mining world and the general public.

RM@Schools Project

In 2021 Euromines is one of the new consortium partners in this project. [RM@School 4.0](#) is an innovative program to make science education and careers in raw materials attractive for youngster. An active learning is proposed to schools by RM (Raw Materials) ambassadors (experts in some RM-related issues and trained teachers) by involving students in experiments with RM-related hands-on educational kits, in excursions in industries, and in science dissemination activities. The students are asked to become Young RM Ambassadors themselves (science communicators) by creating dissemination products focused on some issue related to RM and /or collaborating with experts in supporting public events.

In 2021 Euromines will creation additional educational materials on different RM-value chains to encourage students to discover the whole value chain of how minerals and metals are turned into concrete products.

RM@Schools has developed specific educational paths (called 'the learning pathways') for schools on the innovation themes listed on the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) RawMaterials (Exploration & Mining, Recycling, Substitution, and Circular Economy) which are intended to lead the students through a range of teaching methods and ends with the creation of a student-created piece of work that lets the students interact with the wider community.

RM@Schools Virtual Centre - propose an active learning by involving 10 - 19 yrs students in experiments on raw materials. Learning pathways supplied with detailed explanations and toolkits to perform hands-on experiments are available in the virtual centre.

Visit the [RM@Schools Virtual Centre](#) and check the educational toolkits currently available.

3D and The Briefcase Project

3D and The Briefcase projects teaches students to match minerals to corresponding objects and encourages reflection on issues like conflict minerals, consequences of purchase decisions, as well as the importance of recycling and climate change, making it useful in a number of disciplines ranging from geology to economics. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, schools in Europe and around the world are forced to use more and more online teaching tools. Educators are working hard to adapt to unprecedented circumstances and doing their best to provide students with new learning opportunities they can engage with online and at home.

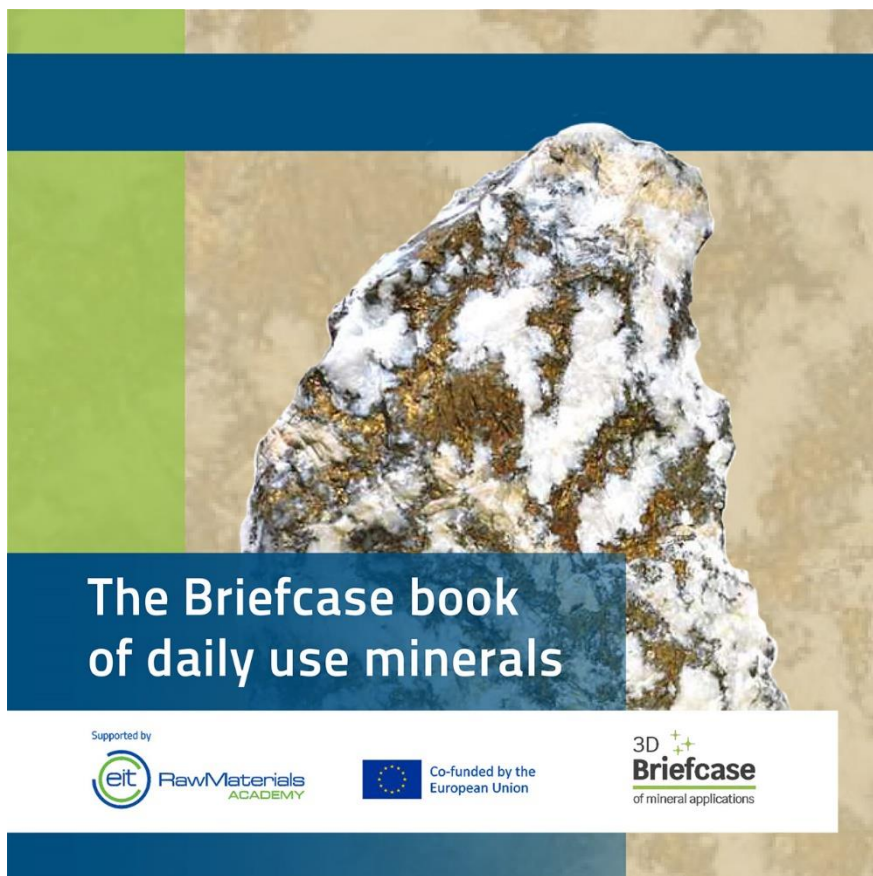
The Briefcase Project has the potential to help fill this void in education and offer teachers an interactive resource they can share with students contributing to the goal of understanding the physical world around us and improving the general knowledge of minerals and mining in society.

We are pleased to announce that [The Briefcase Game is now available in 30 languages](#) covering most part of the world. We would like to **encourage all our members to further promote this tool on national level.**

The Briefcase book of daily use minerals

The NEW publication of 3D Briefcase project **“The Briefcase book of daily use minerals”**. The book is one of the products of the 3D Briefcase project and a teaching tool at the same time. It is intended to be used for teaching geoscience disciplines in schools as well as informing the public about the importance of mining and minerals in our daily lives.

When you drink a coffee from your favourite cup in the morning, look out of the window, get into your car, switch on a computer, call your friends from your smartphone, ... all these things contain mineral resources. Minerals are everywhere around us! Our current lifestyle also depends on mineral resources. [Read more](#) and discover interesting facts about minerals in the newly published book!



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The Briefcase Project and RM@Schools project recognised as Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) Projects

The Briefcase Project and **RM@Schools project** have been selected by the Social Lab 16 working group of the NewHoRRizon Project as the examples of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) Projects inside the EIT program focused in Ethic dimension. Ethics is specifically about respecting fundamental rights and ethical standards in research and innovation, but also about asking what are potential long-term consequences of my project and how can I positively contribute to society. RRI is a key priority in Horizon2020 and the concept intends to bridge gaps between science, research and innovation communities and society at large.

Upcoming Events

International Conference on Raw Materials and Circular Economy RawMat2021

When: Sunday, September 5, 2021 to Thursday, September 9, 2021

Where: Athens, Greece

RawMat2021 is organized by the Technical Chamber of Greece, the School of Mining and Metallurgical Engineering of the National Technical University of Athens and the Greek Raw Materials Cluster (GRawMat) under the auspices of SEV Hellenic Federation of Enterprises. Following the demands and trends of modern society, RawMat2021 shall address a wide range of technological developments and future challenges regarding Raw Materials with emphasis given on Circular Economy aspects.

For more information visit: [RawMat2021 Website](#)

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Raw Materials Week 2021

When: Monday, November 15, 2021 to Friday, November 19, 2021

Where: Brussels and ONLINE

The sixth edition of the "Raw Materials Week" will take place from 15 to 19 November 2021 as hybrid and online events, gathering a wide range of stakeholders discussing policies and initiatives in the field of raw materials. The 2021 Raw Materials Week will be centred around the eight annual High-level Conference of the European Innovation Partnership (EIP) on raw materials and (co-)organise several complementary events addressing the latest news on raw materials in the EU, including: Critical Raw Materials, Trends in innovation and Skills for raw materials, EU Horizon technology success stories, EU-Canada Partnership, UNECE Resource management.

For more information visit: [Raw Materials Week Website](#)

We wish you all a nice and relaxing summer!

We appreciate your feedback, please send your comments and suggestion to [Veronika sochorova@euromines.be](mailto:Veronika.sochorova@euromines.be).