

Euromines UPDATE

9 November 2021

Internal News Update for Euromines Members

Not for public discussion

Euromines Events and Meetings

High-level joint event Euromines and IndustriAll

This event will be aimed at presenting the challenges of European extractive industries in sourcing sustainable raw materials for the Green Deal. We will specifically discuss **how European domestic mining can help in improving the sustainability of critical raw materials sources for Europe and which are the challenges related to that.**



By exchanging on best practice experiences of mining in Europe, speakers will also raise their views on what can be improved from a regulatory and technological perspective. The event will see the presence of MEPs Hildegard Bentele and Erik Bergkvist, Judith Kirton-Darling from industriAll European Trade Union, Mark Rachovides from Euromines and Julia Poliscanova from Transport and Environment. The event will be introduced by two keynote speeches from Maive Rute, Deputy Director General for DG GROW and Bernd Schäfer, CEO EIT RawMaterials.

Join us online or in Brussels!

The venue: “The Office”, rue d’Arlon 80, 1040, Brussels

[Registration link](#)

Keynotes

- ⇒ **Maive Rute**, Deputy Director General for DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, European Commission
- ⇒ **Bernd Schäfer**, CEO EIT RawMaterials

Panel:

- ⇒ **Hildegard Bentele**, Member of the European Parliament
- ⇒ **Erik Bergkvist**, Member of the European Parliament
- ⇒ **Judith Kirton Darling**, Deputy General Secretary IndustriAll European Trade Union
- ⇒ **Julia Poliscanova**, Senior Director Vehicles and Emobility at T&E Transport and Environment
- ⇒ **Mark Rachovides**, President Euromines

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Upcoming Euromines Meetings

- **Euromines Sustainable Finance TaskForce / TSC batch 2 workshop – HYBRID**
On Tuesday 9th November 2021 from 10:00 to 15:00 CET. Hybrid meeting: Brussels office and online [Meeting link](#).
- **Euromines ETS/CBAM Taskforce Meeting – ONLINE**
On Tuesday 9th November 2021 from 15:30 to 16:30 CET. [Meeting Link](#).
- **Euromines Energy Committee Meeting – ONLINE**
On Thursday 25th November 2021 from 10:00 to 12:30 CET. [Meeting link](#).
- **Euromines Policy Committee Meeting – ONLINE**
On Monday 29th November 2021 from 11:00 to 13:00 CET.
- **Euromines Environment Committee Meeting – ONLINE**
On Tuesday 30th November 2021 from 10:00 to 16:00 CET. [Meeting link](#).

- **Euromines H&S Committee Meeting – ONLINE**

On Tuesday 14th December 2021 from 15:00 to 16:30 CET. Via Teams.

Euromines Committees Overview is available in Euromines Members Area.

Policy

Svemin's Environmental Conference 2021 – A sustainable future requires sustainable permit processes

On 26th October 2021, Euromines Director General Rolf Kuby joined the Svemin's Environmental Conference 2021 - A sustainable future requires sustainable permit processes. Mr. Kuby highlighted, *'the biggest challenge for us is the societal acceptance. We need to build on a trust relation, we are a partner of the society and we all know that we provide raw materials infrastructure that are needed for the transition in the future society beyond 2050.'*

The video recording of the conference is now available on [Svemins' YouTube channel](#).

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Securing a sustainable supply of rare earths for a carbon-neutral future of Europe

On 30th September 2021 the European Raw Materials Alliance (ERMA) released its Action Plan to secure access to Rare Earth Elements for European industry. Entitled Rare Earth Magnets and Motors: A European Call for Action, the report outlines current and projected European demand for Rare Earth Elements and steps which should be taken to secure their supply.

The demand for high energy density rare earth permanent magnets is growing exponentially. They are vital for applications like wind power, electric mobility, and communications technology, making their supply crucial to the European Union's stated ambition to transition to a green, digital economy. While the EU is a world leader in the manufacturing of electric motors, it is almost fully import dependent regarding rare earth permanent magnets, more than 90% of which are produced in China.



4 The Report [is available on ERMA website](#).

Sustainable Finance

Platform on Sustainable Finance

Currently, the Platform on Sustainable Finance is still revising the feedback from the public consultation received on the Platform's report on the first batch of environmental objectives. When this process will be over and the Platform will submit its recommendation for TSCs to the Commission in the end of 2021, planning will start on the workplan for 2022 (likely mid-December), with discussion on batch 2 starting in Q1 2022. In order to be prepared for the start of the new discussion round, Euromines holds a Workshop on 9 November to develop further the last version of the negotiation text and to determine where a macro-sector wide criterion and NACE-specific variations are necessary.

Energy and Climate

Fit for 55 package

Regarding the defined core-files in the Fit for 55 package, Euromines reached out to Permanent Representations in which our membership is located as well as to the rapporteurs and shadow-rapporteurs in lead-committees as well as committees with shared competences in the European Parliament. First discussions provided fruitful insights in the thinking around CBAM as well as ETS in terms of timeline and ambition levels in the Council as well as the interaction and thinking of these files with other legislative proposals on the table.

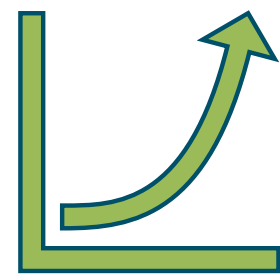
Furthermore, the work is picking up pace in the European Parliament where the specific Euromines interest are covered across different committees. First round of meetings with rapporteurs and shadows are scheduled for this week, with an additional Euromines participation in the Industry Roundtable organised by MEP Emma Wiesner, the Renew Europe shadow and negotiator for the EU ETS.

Other activities around the Fit-for-55 package include our submission to the post-publication public consultation of the European Commission on ETS and CBAM based on the Euromines position paper. In addition, Mette Quinn, Director in charge of the ETS, joins the Euromines ETS/CBAM Taskforce call on 9 November, where we will present our ambition regarding the ETS in interaction with the CBAM introduction.

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Skyrocketing energy prices

On high energy prices, a Euromines met with the Cabinet of Kadri Simson, Commissioner for Energy, and representatives of DG Energy to present our case how the skyrocketing energy prices hamper the sector's efforts in the clean energy transition. The most important CapEx-decision for decarbonization investments must be taken now and implemented in the window until 2030, thus the years to come and the support that is possible to get will be crucial to determine the fate of our industry with a view to 2050.



Euromines addressed in particular:

- ⇒ **Market Design in electricity:** From the perspective of the energy-intensive industry, there is a main tension in the design of the electricity market due to the marginal price setting mechanism. While this helps renewable energy producers, the price setting by the most CO₂-intensive unit of electricity production makes price and investment signals for energy intensive consumers sticky as these depend on an abundance of low CO₂ and competitively priced electricity. Thus, even when an enterprise is fully electrified with fossil-free electricity, the marginal price setting doesn't change the cost burden as a consumer still has to face the same CO₂-costs in the electricity price. This stickiness

in prices depends right now on the pace of penetration of fossil-free electricity, which is too slow to show the right investment signals right now necessary for the large CapEx decision until 2030.

In addition, there is an OpEx-issue as well if electricity not only on the spot market but also hedging instruments are becoming more and more expensive. We welcome therefore the ACER assessment on benefits and shortcomings of the market design and would like to flag that this is a major shortcoming to ensure the uptake of solutions in energy intensive processes.

- ⇒ **Indirect cost compensation:** As pointed out, Euromines represents 42 different metals and minerals, that are either price-takers, thus traded according to globally set reference prices, or in direct competition with producers in the EU neighbourhood that benefit from much lower energy prices. The way forward for decarbonization will be via electricity, either in direct or indirect application. With the rising intensity of electricity in processes, the issue of indirect CO₂-costs is becoming more and more prominent in order to stay competitive. We would be very glad if DG Competition will make use of its flexibility clause in the ETS State Aid Guidelines to ensure mining becoming eligible for indirect cost compensation again.
- ⇒ **PPAs:** For any stable production running 24/7 like mining, baseload is vital – and with increased share of renewables, the issue of balancing energy is becoming crucial. The calculation base for a PPA if based on market prices risks that PPAs will become too expensive as for our sector it simply isn't possible to consume as produced. Increased RES integration while maintaining competitiveness in the on-going electrification efforts requires measures to avoid price hikes to be priced into such PPA, either by index caps or by setting up obligations for RES producers to be responsible also for balancing the power they put on the grid.
- ⇒ **Natural gas:** the current price level (up for 200% since January 2021 with an expected further increase to 300% compared with January 2021) reflects the low gas storage levels. It is imperative that storage levels increase in the medium term. Gas will remain an important energy carrier for a lot of processes, such as for sinter-kilns and tunnel kilns used in magnesite production where a change is either technically not possible or far too costly, as the use of electricity would cost 4 times more than the use of gas. While indirect electrification might be a technically feasible option, the availability of alternative fuels is extremely limited (Syn-Gas / Bio-Fuels / Hydrogen) – so here further actions in the medium to long-run are necessary to ensure availability at competitive costs.
- ⇒ **Surcharges, fees and levies:** we appreciate the approach taken in the toolbox for a lifting of fees, levies and other surcharges. However, such measures can only have a temporarily alleviating effect on rising energy prices – we would therefore urge to take into account a more robust, structural approach as pointed out in the points above to ensure a price-crisis proof system that allows for decarbonization and ensures competitiveness.

ICMM members' commitment to a goal of net zero by 2050 or sooner

On 5th October, members of the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) have committed to a goal of net zero scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2050 or sooner, in line with the ambitions of the Paris Agreement. This landmark commitment was made in an open letter signed by the CEOs of ICMM's company members.

The ICMM Climate Change Statement is [available here](#).



Learn more about this collective commitment: [Video](#)

Environment

Industrial Emission Directive (IED)

A 2nd meeting with consultant WOOD took place on 20th October. Euromines delivered on the request of WOOD some background information on emissions for Cu, Li, K, and Graphite mining. Also, some information on metal production potential of Nordic countries was provided. The reasoning behind the highlighting of those commodities by WOOD was not clear. Again, we stressed that mining is already well covered under EU and national legislation/permits and that IED does not bring additional environmental benefit.

Initialized by Euromines, a joint anti-IED statement was sent from the Non-Energy Extractive Industry Panel (NEEIP) to DG ENVI. On 27/10/2021 NEEIP (Mr Doome-IMA, Mr Nikolakakos-CEMBUREAU, Mr Suffys-Eurogypsum, Mr Luaces Frades-UEPG, Mr Scolobiuc-UEPG, Mr Kuby-Euromines, and Mr van Nes-Euromines) met DG ENVI (Mr Allen, Mr Zerger, Mr Smets, Mr Wimmer, and Mr McAndrew (WOOD)) concerning the IED review. It became clear that DG Envi is considering including part of the extractive sector under IED, however no official statement has been made yet. The use of SME thresholds is considered, like what is done in other industrial sectors. Mr Wimmer mentioned that not only dust emission is poorly covered under EU legislation, but according to him also water and soil targets should be placed under IED.

On 21st October Mark Rachovides and Rolf Kuby met Mattia Pellegrini and Christian Wimmer (DG Envi), where a similar message was heard.

At the end of October WOOD should have sent their review report on the Extractive sector to DG Envi (not public info) which will be used for the internal assessment process within the Commission.

Mr Cristopher Allen (Deputy head of Unit Emissions DG Envi) will speak about the IED Review at the next Euromines Env Com meeting of 30th November.

Water Framework Directive (WFD)

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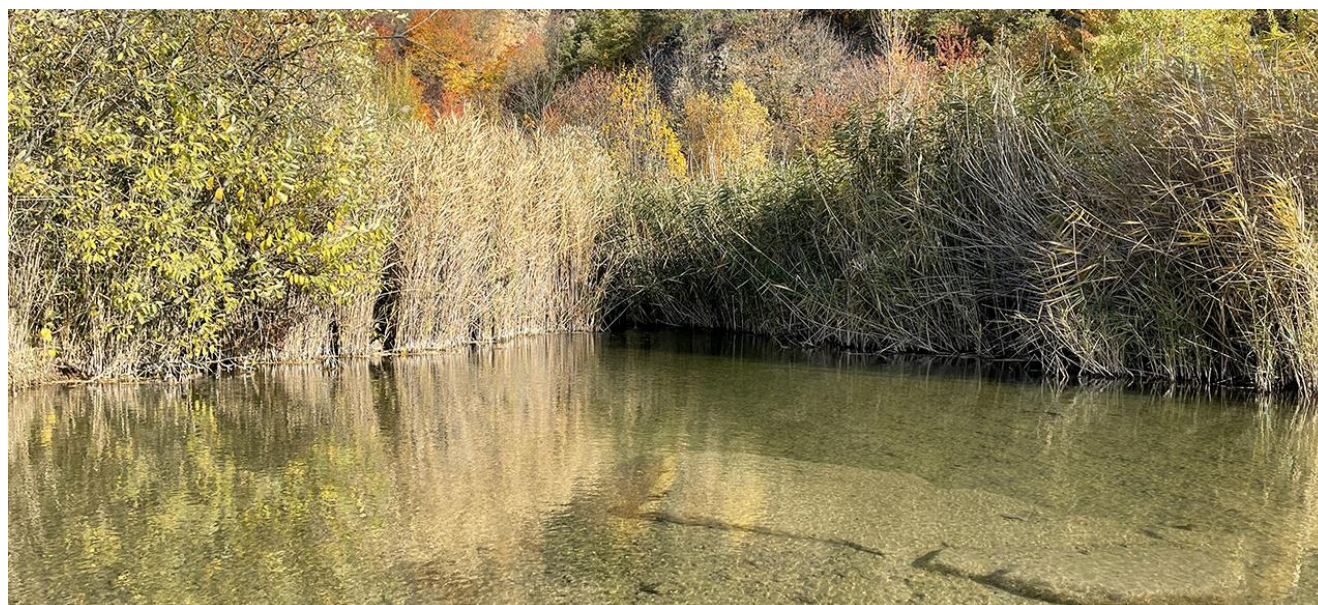
Euromines responded to the Open Public consultation on the Impact Assessment of the revision of the revised lists of surface and groundwater pollutants. We included our general concerns related to the revision process of water indicators and attached position papers on Soil Strategy and IED Review.

The Working Group Chemicals (21st October) and Strategic Coordination Group (SCG, 28th October) WFD meetings took place. In those meetings an overview of Priority Substances (PS) revision was provided. Relevant information on metals:

- ⇒ Ag – In general SCHEER endorsed all JRC's suggestions for the Ag file. The SCHEER (Scientific Committee on Health, Environmental and Emerging Risks) opinion included that most of the proposed Quality Standards for Ag were endorsed. Also, SCHEER endorsed JRC comments on silver and its nanoparticles enhancing antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in the environment. In the industry statement cosigned by Euromines the main critic was that the derivation of the QS was not done according to the existing EU rules. JRC admitted in a follow up meeting with EU Precious Metals Federation and Eurometaux that after scientific review (that may be short or incomplete) also political pressure plays an important part in revision and decision on new PS.
- ⇒ Existing Priority Substances Ni and Pb - The Member States are currently able to provide comments on adaptation of existing Environmental Quality Standards values.
- ⇒ Existing PS Hg - in November 2021 it is likely that a new draft EQS will be suggested by JRC.

At the end of the WG Chemicals meeting the JRC suggested to propose free-CN again as candidate for surface water watchlist in the next round (starting in 2022). Therefore, it will be relevant to follow up and provide again arguments as we successfully did in the previous round.

Good news is that two long pending documents were released: Technical Guidance for implementing EQS for metals and Technical Proposal for Effect Based Monitoring and Assessment under the WFD. These are relevant tools for defending elevated natural background levels around metal deposits.



9 Health & Safety

Euromines Strategy on Reducing and preventing Accidents

With the initiative and support of the members, Euromines has initiated its strategy on accident reduction through the dissemination of incidents called Momentum Safety Alert and the reporting of Safety Statistics among the members.

Safety is a core value for Euromines and its Safety Strategy is part of this commitment.

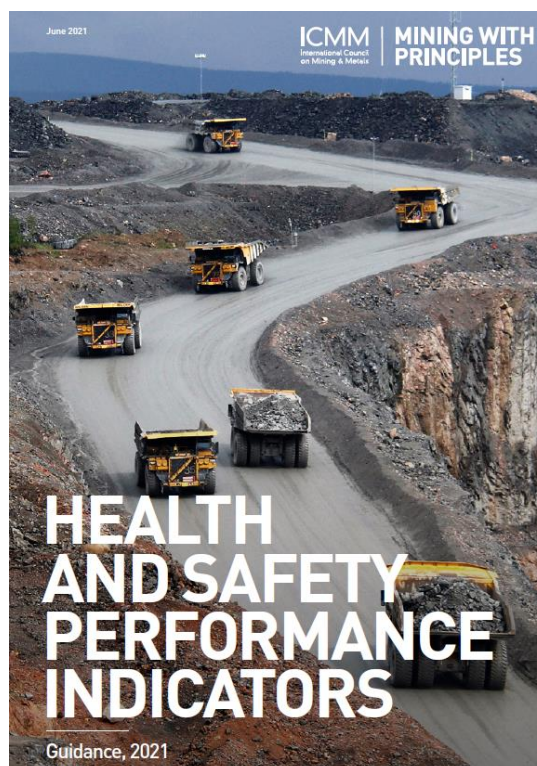
Special workshop to discuss OELs

Due to the great concern of the European mineral raw materials sector about compliance with the Chemical Agents Directive (new limit values for NO, NO₂ and CO) and Carcinogens and Mutagens Directive (limit value for Diesel Exhaust Emissions), Euromines will organise a workshop in early 2022 to discuss the current situation of the sector and explore the way forward. It should be noted that so far, the sector has been making efforts to reduce emissions of these gases at the working place.

ICMM Health and Safety Performance Indicators guideline

In 2021, ICMM published the updated guidance on Safety Performance Indicators. This document contains the recommended definitions and reporting boundaries for lagging health and safety performance indicators to be used by ICMM member companies for the purposes of benchmarking activities.

The ICMM Safety Performance Indicators Guidance 2021 is available in the [here](#).



Raising Awareness and Knowledge

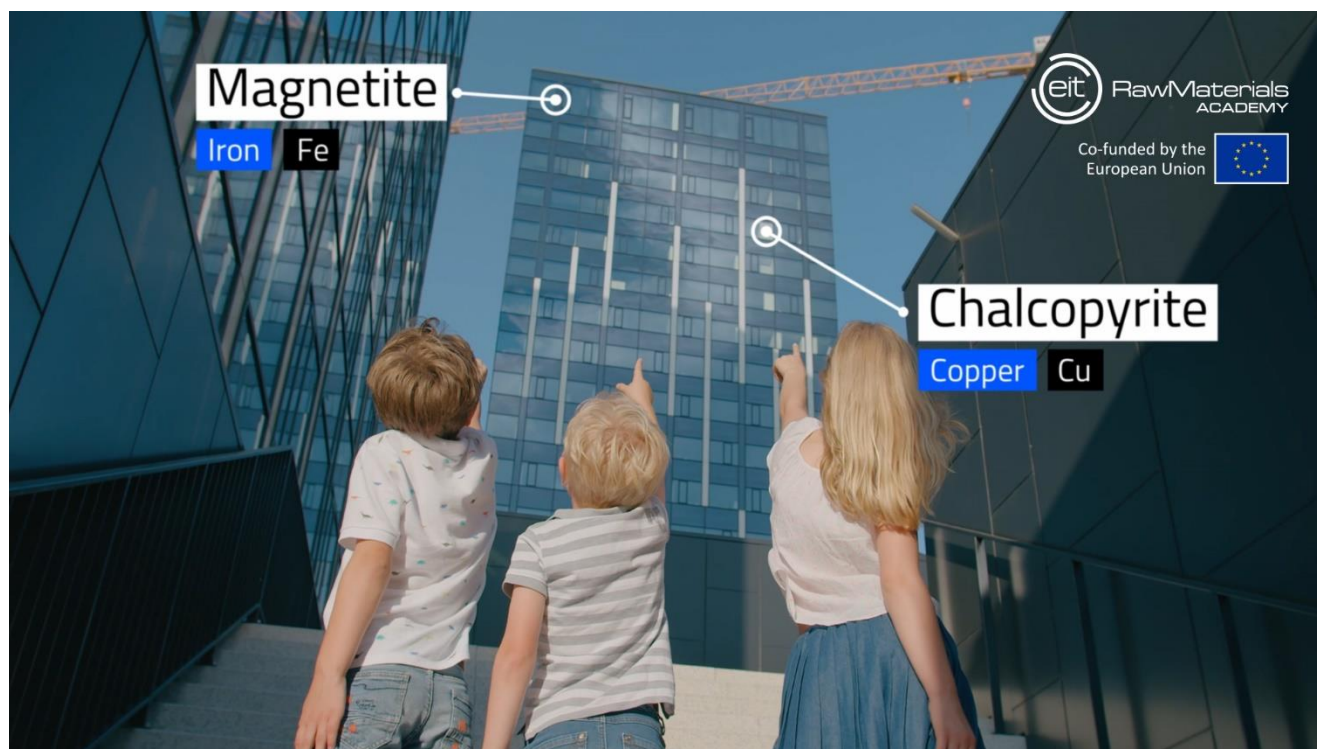
New VIDEO 'Minerals and metals in your life'

The future of the European raw materials industry is dependent on building strong connections with society. It is crucially important that society has an accurate understanding of the importance of mineral resources and their sourcing in ethical and sustainable ways.

The new educational and inspirational video for kids 'Minerals and metals in your life' shows the importance of minerals and metals in our lives, from a piece of rock into a product we all use in daily life.

To watch the video '[Minerals and metals in your life](#)' please click here.

Shorter version of the [video is available here](#).



This video was developed within the 3D Briefcase Project which aims to foster connections and understanding among primary and secondary students, by providing engaging educational materials. 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 in, online and at home.

The 3D 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 them and improving their general knowledge of minerals and mining in society.

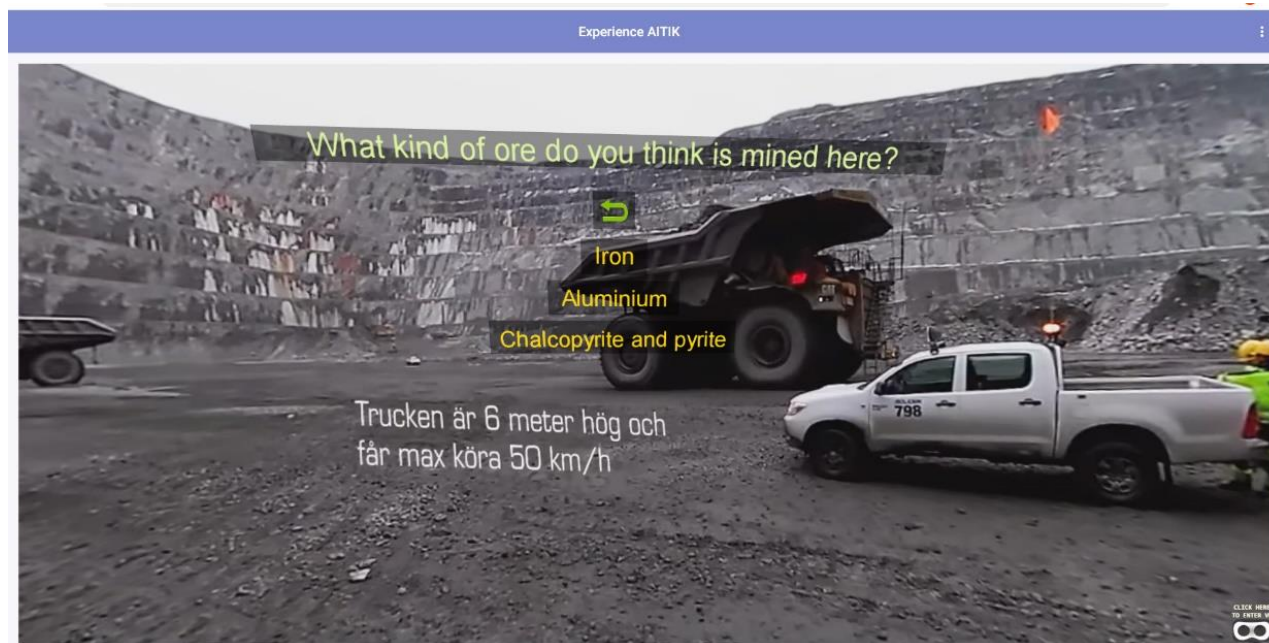
[The Briefcase game](#), in two versions, one for younger kids and one for students ages 10 – 18, is now available in 31 languages!



3D and Virtual mine visit and 360 experience

The 3D Briefcase virtual mine visits and 360 experience are online.

[Aitik Copper Mine virtual mine visit](#)



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[Orovalle Gold Mine virtual mine visit](#)



RM@Schools Project

RM@Schools Virtual Centre

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 year old 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](#).



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RockCheck

application is a digital educational tool that contributes to the improvement and quality of teaching and learning of rocks and geological contents within natural science subjects in the formal school system. The content is based on the standard classifications of rocks

and adapted to the needs of pupils, students, teachers, and the general public. The educational tool RockCheck is more interesting for use than textbooks and can be used innovatively with active learning techniques.

RockCheck application rocks the world



RockCheck app: The educational tool for the identification of rocks.

Upcoming Events

Raw Materials Week 2021

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

Where: Brussels and ONLINE



15 November 2021 - 19 November 2021
Brussels, Belgium

EU Raw Materials Week 2021

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](https://www.euromines.org/raw-materials-week)

European extractive industries towards just transition: critical raw materials' sustainable mining in Europe

When: Tuesday, November 16, 2021 - 15:00 to 16:30

Where: Online

Event organised by Euromines and IndustriAll.



Draft programme

Keynotes:

- Thierry Breton, Commissioner for the Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, European Commission (tbc)
- Bernd Schäfer, CEO EIT RawMaterials (tbc)

Panel:

- Hildegard Bentele, Member of the European Parliament (tbc)
- Erik Bergkvist, Member of the European Parliament (tbc)
- Judith Kirton Darling, Deputy General Secretary IndustriAll European Trade Union
- Julia Poliscanova, Senior Director Vehicles and Emobility at T&E Transport and Environment (tbc)
- Mark Rachovides, President Euromines

More information will follow in the following weeks.

11th International Conference on Mineral Resources in the Republic of Serbia

When: Tuesday, November 16, 2021 to Wednesday, November 17, 2021

Where: Metropol Palace, Belgrade, Serbia



The 11th International Conference on Mineral Resources in the Republic of Serbia is a leading annual conference on mining and raw materials in Serbia and it is dedicated to address all important issues of the industry and will have a strong focus on the significant contribution of the Mineral Resources industries to the development of the economy of Serbia and region. The conference provides a perspective of world's mining experience in the domain of smart mining, sustainable development, risk assessment and health & safety policy, global mining financing trends, impact of pandemic to regional development and female leadership in mining. The aim of this conference is to connect mining sector investors and experts with all relevant governmental, financial and social stakeholders.

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

Svemins Autumn Summit 2021

When: Thursday, November 18, 2021 - 12:15

Where: Nalen, Stockholm and online



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The availability of raw materials sets the pace for real climate transition. Report after report has shown this over the past year. Today, the mines are involved in building the green society.

Sweden, as the leading mining nation in the EU, has fantastic opportunities to contribute with sustainably produced metals and minerals that are needed for globally increased climate ambitions. But Sweden must be given the conditions to continue to develop and extract these – otherwise there is a risk that other far-sighted countries will catch up and outrun us. The race is global and the pace is high. It is now that Sweden has the opportunity to shift up and maintain its leading role.

Svemin's Autumn Summit 2021 is a hybrid event. The program runs from 10.00 to 16.15. The afternoon is also broadcast live on Svemin's Youtube channel.

Do you wish to attend at Nalen, Stockholm: [register here](#)

Do you wish to attend digitally: [register here](#)

Eurometaux EU Green Deal resources study - Supply workshop

When: Monday, November 22, 2021 - 14:00 to 16:00

KU LEUVEN



Eurometaux

Green Deal Resource Map

The impact of the Green Deal on global and European commodity demand

An external study on the EU Green Deal's resource needs, and supply scenarios. This workshop will focus on supply side.

The invitation to join this workshop is open to all Euromines members. Please contact **Laura Fazio Bellacchio**, Eurometaux (fazio@eurometaux.be) in case you would like to join this workshop.

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Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee for Extractive Industries Working group Meeting – HYBRID

When: Monday, December 6, 2021 - 09:00 to 12:45

The main topics of the meeting will be: Just Transition Territorial Plans: update and tour de table, EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2021-2027, EU funds for social partners joint project and Work programme 2022-2023.

The joint meeting will start at 10am. The preparatory meeting for the workers' delegation will be held from 09.00 till 10am with interpretation. The preparatory meeting for the employers will be organised by the social partners.

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