



Green Deal Materials: Enablers of the twin transition

EUMICON's priorities

Raw materials availability at the focus of EU's strategic efforts

Regulatory coherence to keep industrial value chains in Europe

Affordable energy supply to ensure the future of the European industry

A World in Transition.

Europe's future prosperity at stake.

The mineral resources and metals industries as backbone of the economy and guarantors of our future prosperity. The world is changing at a rapid pace. The war in Ukraine and the spike in energy prices have shown the need to further accelerate both the green and digital transitions. The mineral resources and metals industries are at the core of those efforts. EUMICON is a platform which focusses on the key value chains of energy, mobility, and digitisation which need to be seen from a holistic perspective. Mineral resources are indispensable for those value chains. Furthermore, raw materials play a key role in the strengthening of Europe's strategic sovereignty.

Access to raw materials

With increasing demand for raw materials in the framework of the green and digital transition, Europe will need to shift its strategic focus to raw materials availability. To ensure a successful transition, the regulatory framework needs to allow the European industry to stay competitive, while strategic alliances with third countries and fostering a circular economy will prove crucial to ensure Europe's prosperity. This must include an acceleration of permission processes along the entire value chain and a better coherence of EU policy.

Raw materials are of strategic importance for the twin transition. The resilience of raw materials supply will depend on the availability of both critical raw materials and base metals and minerals and strengthen European strategic sovereignty.

Responsibility and sustainability

The European raw materials industry is characterised by state-of-the-art technology and is subject to a strict regulatory framework. While our members support efforts to enhance sustainable and responsible sourcing along the different value chains, this must also apply for imported products from third countries to the same degree to ensure a level-playing field.

An overarching framework to strengthen European raw materials value chains must include sustainable finance considerations as well: life-cycle management and the overall targets of the green transition must be taken into account ensuring a level-playing field for Europe's high-performance companies in the metals and mining sector.

The concept of circular economy has significant potential for European industry, which must be tapped without any delay. Policymakers should make it easier for the industry to unleash this potential by creating an adequate, holistic, and coherent legislative framework.

Key issues of our value chains.

Made in Europe. Promoting European industrial value chains plays a crucial role in the achievement of EU-wide and global climate and sustainability goals and is the key to preserving European competitiveness. In the light of the energy crisis, our common efforts need to be pooled to ensure energy availability at competitive prices. *Made in Europe* is at the heart of keeping our key value chains in Europe and ensuring a rapid transition to renewables, thereby also strengthening our strategic autonomy. The energy crisis has outlined the negative effects of disproportional dependencies and must be understood as a wake-up call to make European raw materials value chains more resilient.

Energy

Securing a stable renewable energy supply

The supply of stable renewable energy (incl. hydrogen) is quintessential for the transition to a greener and more digital Europe as well as for the economic survival of the European primary industry. Diversification of our energy supply in the short-term is key, with the long-term goal of controlling a large share of our energy sources. Competitive energy prices must be quickly ensured in the entire EU to guarantee a level-playing field, both within the common market as well as in the global sphere.

Mineral resources as enablers of the energy transition

Transitioning to renewable energy comes along with a doubling by 2050 in demand for base materials as well as critical raw materials which are by definition subject to potential supply risks. Accelerating permission processes for mining our domestic resources as well as increasing efforts to build raw materials partnerships to ensure the supply of critical raw materials is a prerequisite for a successful transition. This should be the cornerstone of European strategies on the road to achieving the climate targets.

Digitisation

Ensuring long-term productivity

The importance of the EU's competitiveness and resilience must be reflected in the legislative framework. Bolstering productivity via smart digitisation is a key challenge of both the present and the future. For example, sensors needed for chips consist of various critical raw materials, hence ensuring their supply is key for a successful digital transition.

Mobility

Working on a coherent regulatory framework

A reliable and coherent regulatory framework guaranteed by policymakers needs to be at the heart of the electrification of and the introduction of hydrogen to our European transport system. The legislation in place should support research and development on decarbonising our transport system, while always keeping in mind the global field of tension Europe's companies are operating in.

Mineral resources as enablers of the mobility transformation

The transformation of Europe's mobility sector will not be possible without mineral resources. Electric car production is one of the key drivers of the green transformation – to make Europe the first carbon neutral continent by 2050 the demand of lithium will increase by more than 3,000% and our material consumption will be doubled.

Mineral resources as enablers for digitisation

Implementing the digital transition requires a secure supply of chips, which in turn consist of critical mineral resources. Making use of our own resources while strategically ensuring the supply of raw materials which are scarce in the EU is the only way to deliver on the promises the digital transition offers.

Connecting the future

Who we are

EUMICON aims to provide answers to the questions that arise in a rapidly changing world. We provide a voice for the industries that are the backbone of Europe's prosperity and the foundation of its future. We are able to draw upon an extensive stakeholder network in the mineral resources and metals industries. EUMICON covers the entire value chain of mineral resources and metals from extracting to processing and refining via manufacturing, all the way to recycling: We aim to strengthen the competitiveness of the European industry and thus ensure keeping value chains in Europe.



What we do

EUMICON strives for framework conditions which ensure a level-playing field for the mineral resources and metals industries. EUMICON applies a holistic perspective to depict the full picture: This includes ecological, economic, political, and technological aspects. Our methods of choice are strategic discussion processes, stakeholder dialogues, high-level conferences, presentations, and workshops. EUMICON is a proactive player in the promotion of industrial value chains Made in Europe: We are aware that a mutually beneficial cooperation with policymakers, NGO's, academia, and trade unions is vital to achieve the goals set out in the Green Deal.

Together for Europe

EUMICON is Europe's strong platform outlining the challenges and opportunities that come along with the green and digital transformation. Achieving this milestone while at the same time safeguarding economic prosperity and technological innovation is the key challenge of our times. Raw materials are the basis of a sustainable future for our continent, guarantors of current and future jobs, and thereby the key for social cohesion in our societies. EUMICON is convinced that it is time to pool our European resources to be able to speak with one determined voice - because in times of unprecedented challenges, we need to work together to solve them.