

EU Critical Raw Materials Act

GTK-Tukes Info 4.5.2023
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EUROPEAN CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS ACT

March 2023

The EU is aiming to ensure a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials for Europe's industry.

WHY?



Critical raw materials are needed for the **green and digital transitions** as well as for defence and space



To enhance our **long-term competitiveness**



To maintain our **open strategic autonomy** in a fast-changing and increasingly challenging geopolitical environment

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WHAT ARE WE DOING?

The European Critical Raw Materials Act aims to strengthen EU's critical raw materials capacities **along all stages of the value chain**. It aims to increase our resilience by reducing dependencies, increasing preparedness and promoting supply chain sustainability and circularity.

SETTING PRIORITIES

• List of **Critical Raw Materials**

- It identifies raw materials which are important for the whole European economy and face a high risk of supply disruption

• List of **Strategic Raw Materials**

- It identifies a list of raw materials characterised by high strategic importance and projected global supply/demand imbalances



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Critical Raw Materials

Strategic Raw Materials

Antimony	Nickel – battery grade
Arsenic	Niobium
Bauxite	Phosphate rock
Baryte	Phosphorus
Beryllium	Platinum Group Metals
Bismuth	Scandium
Boron	Silicon metal
Cobalt	Strontium
Coking Coal	Tantalum
Copper	Titanium metal
Feldspar	Tungsten
Fluorspar	Vanadium
Gallium	
Germanium	
Hafnium	
Helium	
Heavy Rare Earth Elements	
Light Rare Earth Elements	
Lithium	
Magnesium	
Manganese	
Natural Graphite	

Bismuth
Boron - metallurgy grade
Cobalt
Copper
Gallium
Germanium
Lithium - battery grade
Magnesium metal
Manganese - battery grade
Natural Graphite - battery grade
Nickel - battery grade
Platinum Group Metals
Rare Earth Elements for magnets (Nd, Pr, Tb, Dy, Gd, Sm, and Ce)
Silicon metal
Titanium metal
Tungsten

EU CRM Act 16.3.2023: goals for strategic raw materials for 2030

SETTING 2030 BENCHMARKS FOR STRATEGIC RAW MATERIALS



EU EXTRACTION

At least **10%** of the EU's annual consumption for extraction



EU PROCESSING

At least **40%** of the EU's annual consumption for processing



EU RECYCLING

At least **15%** of the EU's annual consumption for recycling



EXTERNAL SOURCES

Not more than **65%** of the EU's annual consumption of **each strategic raw material at any relevant stage of processing** from a single third country

Key message:
All of these aspects are to be strengthened in EU

BUILDING EUROPEAN CAPACITIES



Identifying **Strategic Projects** in the Union and third countries that intend to become active in the extraction, processing or recycling of strategic raw materials. They would benefit from streamlined and predictable permitting procedures in the Union and coordination of support to improve access to finance



Speeding up permitting for all critical raw material projects with a one-stop-shop contact



Developing national exploration programmes to **boost knowledge on European critical raw materials resources**



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14.3.2023 CRM ACT – exploration

- *Each member state shall draw up a national programme for general exploration targeted at critical raw materials. Such a programme should include:*
 - *Mineral mapping at suitable scale*
 - *Geochemical campaigns*
 - *Geoscientific surveys, such as geophysical surveys*
 - *Processing of the data gathered through general exploration, including through the development of predictive maps*
 - *Reprocessing of existing geoscientific survey data to check for unidentified mineral occurrences containing critical raw materials*
 - *Possibility to create an integrated database for storing the results of the national programmes*

14.3.2023 CRM ACT – exploration

- Member States shall make the information on their mineral occurrences containing critical raw materials gathered through the measures set out in the national programmes **publicly available on a free access website.**
- This information shall include **classification of the identified occurrences using United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC)**
- Increase available information on the Union's CRM occurrences, **including deep ore deposits***

* "mineral occurrences that are located deeper in the Earth's crust than conventionally exploited ore occurrences"

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52023PC0160>

CRM Act: Circular Economy

- Operators of extractive waste facilities, both existing and new, should perform a preliminary economic assessment study regarding the **recovery of critical raw materials from extractive waste** present on the site and from such waste being generated
- Member States should draw up a **database** containing all information relevant to promote the recovery, notably the quantities and concentrations **of critical raw materials in the extractive waste facilities**



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