European Technology Platform on Sustainable Mineral Resources

EuroGeoSurveys – European Geoscience for Society – The Geological Surveys of Europe

GSEU – Geological Service for Europe – Funded by the European Union

Event Summary – Unlocking Europe's Mineral Raw Materials Potential: New Data, New Projects, New Opportunities

Marivaux Hotel, Brussels | 17 November 2025

Thank you to the over 100 participants of the Raw Materials Week side event co-hosted by EuroGeoSurveys (EGS) and the European Technology Platform for Sustainable Mineral Resources (ETP SMR), who helped to make it a resounding success. The event brought together geological surveys, industry, research organisations, EU institutions, and financial actors – an audience that reflects the broad community needed to unlock Europe's mineral raw materials potential. The contributions, questions, and discussions helped create a dynamic exchange on how Europe can accelerate access to reliable, pre-competitive geoscience and support responsible mineral development.

Public geoscience: Where it all begins

During the first session on “Financing Future European Exploration and Mining”, the European Investment Bank and Aurum Exploration presented findings from their new report, underscoring a critical need for investment in public geoscience. They stressed that geoscience must be communicated more effectively to strengthen public trust and attract the required political support and investment. Their analysis pointed to a striking conclusion: Europe needs to increase investment in public geoscience **by a factor of ten** if it wants to drive meaningful exploration and secure long-term raw materials supply.

This point was echoed in the session on “How Industry and Geological Surveys Can Communicate to Diverse Stakeholders”, where speakers highlighted that geological surveys are uniquely positioned to take on the knowledge brokerage role. Positive examples from Norway and Ireland illustrated how close collaboration between Geological Survey Organisations and industry can strengthen communication and build trust, from the earliest exploration stages all the way through to mine development.

Projects across Europe show strong momentum

In the session “From Geology to Discovery”, speakers showcased promising European projects supported by pre-competitive geological data and information from the National Geological Survey Organisations. Greenland Resources presented their Malmbjerg project, moving toward near-development, enabled by the Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland's long-term geological mapping programme and open geological data platform. In Serbia, Electrum Discovery Corp. and the Geological Survey of Serbia highlighted new discoveries and ongoing work that underscore the region's strong potential.

EuroManganese's Chvaletice project, a strategic project under the CRMA, demonstrated how pre-competitive geoscience provided by the Czech Geological Survey, combined with a stable permitting framework, can accelerate development. Talga showed how close collaboration with the Swedish Geological Survey sharpens exploration targeting. And as part of the EU-Australia strategic partnership, CSIRO illustrated how large, consistent datasets and emerging tools are enabling deeper, more efficient exploration. Together, these examples underscored momentum in Europe's exploration ecosystem and the value of strong collaboration.

Industry and geoscience alignment is essential

In the panel on “European Research to Accelerate Discovery”, speakers stressed the need for continued investment in prospective regions and in new technologies. Above all, the discussion highlighted that real innovation happens through collaboration between industry, academia, and National Geological Survey Organisations, bringing together the data, science, and skills needed to accelerate discovery. Networks such as ETP SMR, and initiatives like a future permanent Geological Service for Europe delivered by EuroGeoSurveys, were recognised as invaluable mechanisms to support this collaboration.

Financing: The message that echoed throughout the day

From the opening session on financing to the final panel on research and innovation, one message came through consistently: Europe needs to unlock funds to fully develop its raw materials potential.

Examples from the Irish Minerals Fund and Made in Italy, and lessons learned from abroad, presented by Caesars Report and Latitude Five, highlighted the importance of creating an ecosystem for exploration companies to thrive. Speakers stressed that without increased investment, and a focus on fundamentals such as faster permitting processes and stronger supply chain resilience, Europe risks falling behind in achieving its CRMA ambitions. This sentiment was echoed by the audience, with the live survey highlighting financing as the most critical enabling factor for progress of the upcoming REsourceEU Plan.

A shared conclusion

The event concluded with a clear message: Europe can secure a sustainable raw materials future, but this depends on systematic, dramatically increased investment, stronger communication, deeper collaboration, and coordinated knowledge. Only with these foundations can pre-competitive geoscience data drive new projects. These priorities were also mentioned in the opening remarks by Hildegard Bentele, MEP, and Krzysztof Galos, Undersecretary of State of Poland, and closing remarks by Madalina Ivanica, Deputy Head of Unit at the European Commission’s DG GROW.

EuroGeoSurveys and ETP SMR reaffirm their commitment to continued collaboration to unlock Europe’s mineral raw materials potential.

Looking ahead: Join us at PDAC 2026

Building on the success of this event, a dedicated session at **PDAC 2026** will follow, bringing the European geoscience-industry dialogue to one of the world’s leading mineral raw materials exploration and mining conventions. Organisations interested in presenting, contributing, or attending are warmly invited to contact us for more information.