



# GSEU

**GEOLOGICAL SERVICE | FOR EUROPE**

## UNFC for critical raw materials

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Guillaume Bertrand,  
Georesources Division, BRGM

[www.geologicalservice.eu](http://www.geologicalservice.eu)



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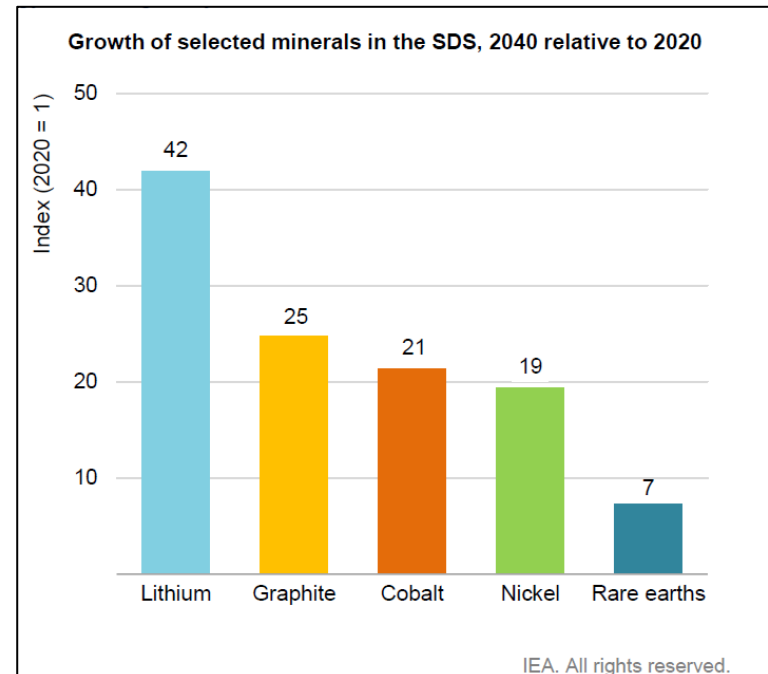
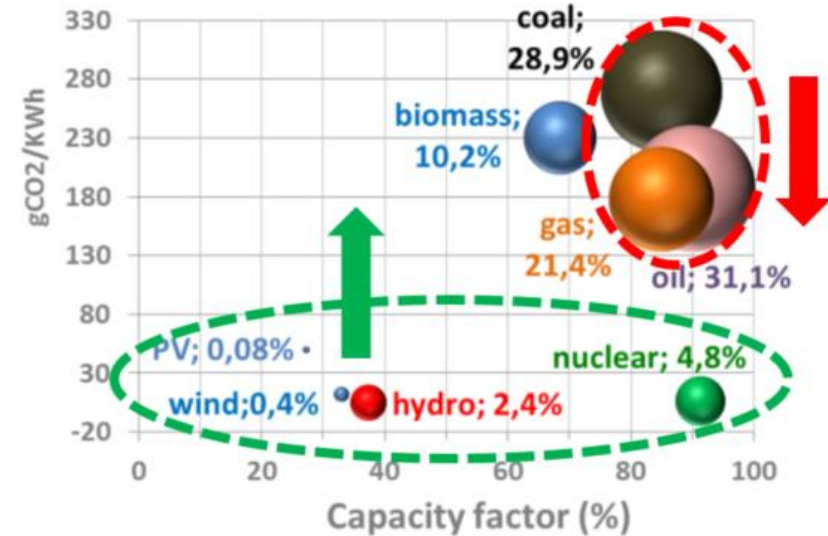


# The challenge of Critical Raw Materials

**Our modern World is facing critical challenges and transitions:**

- The climate change imposes reduction of GHG and development of renewable energies;
- The energy transition is material intensive (6 times more CRM for EV vs. CV or offshore wind vs. coal);
- The exponential development of digital technologies relies on increasing consumption of energy and materials;

**→ The demand for CRM is and will keep increasing in response to the combined effects of the energy transition, digital transition, world population increase and economic growth.**



IEA report, 2021



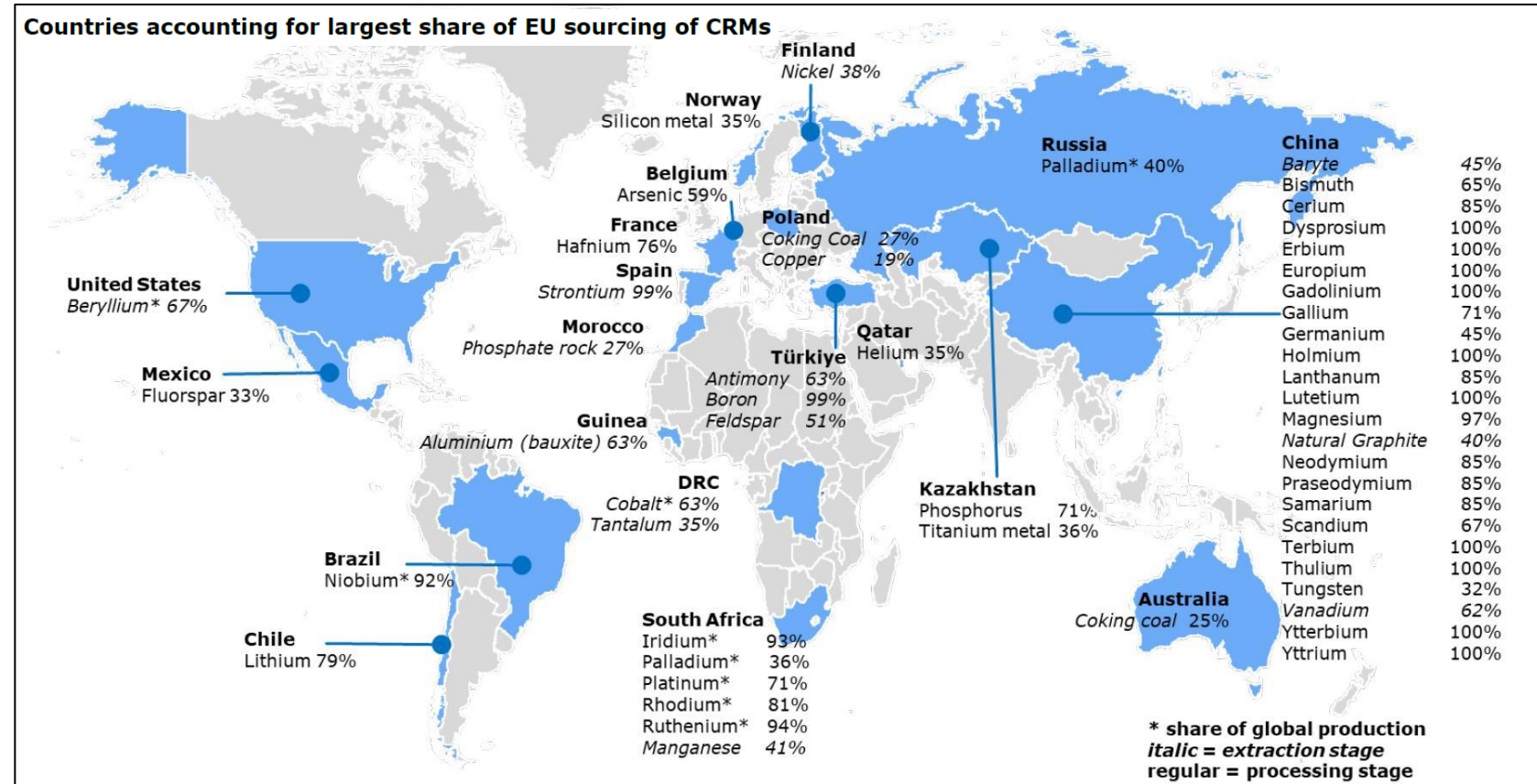
# The challenge of CRM in Europe

European industry strongly depends on importation from third countries (e.g., Li, Co, REE, etc.);

In an unstable geopolitical World, the EU needs to secure its supplies in CRM:

- Relocation of extraction and processing in European countries;
- Increase of recycling and secondary resources (mine/processing wastes, EoL,...);
- Bilateral cooperation with producing countries;

→ The rising awareness in Europe led to actions with ambitious goals to secure EU CRM supplies, e.g. the CRM Act.



European Commission, Study on the Critical Raw Materials for the EU – Final Report (2023)



# EU Critical Raw Materials Act

The European Commission proposed the CRM Act in March 2023, along with a list of Critical and Strategic Raw Materials.

## The Act aims to:

- Strengthen all stages of the CRM value chain;
- Diversify EU CRM imports to reduce strategic dependencies;
- Improve EU capacity to monitor and mitigate risks of disruption to CRM supply;
- Improve CRM circularity and sustainability.

## 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



# UNFC in the EU Critical Raw Materials Act

## UNFC Provisions

### Strategic Projects

Article 5: Criteria for recognition of Strategic Projects

### National Exploration Projects

Article 18: National exploration programmes

### Risk Monitoring

Article 20: Information obligation for monitoring

### Extractive Wastes

Article 26: Recovery of critical raw materials from extractive wastes

## UNFC Post-Enactment

UNFC is key in the recognition of Strategic Projects – **Project promoters** are required to classify their projects in **UNFC** for the **Strategic Project Application to the Commission**.

Member States will have to intensify their National Exploration Programs – **Exploration results are required to be reported in UNFC**;

New and existing projects are to be reported by the Member States to the Commission – **UNFC is obligatory for monitoring new projects**;

As part of National measures on circularity, CRM recovery from extractive wastes is encouraged – **UNFC is required when reporting on extractive waste facilities**.

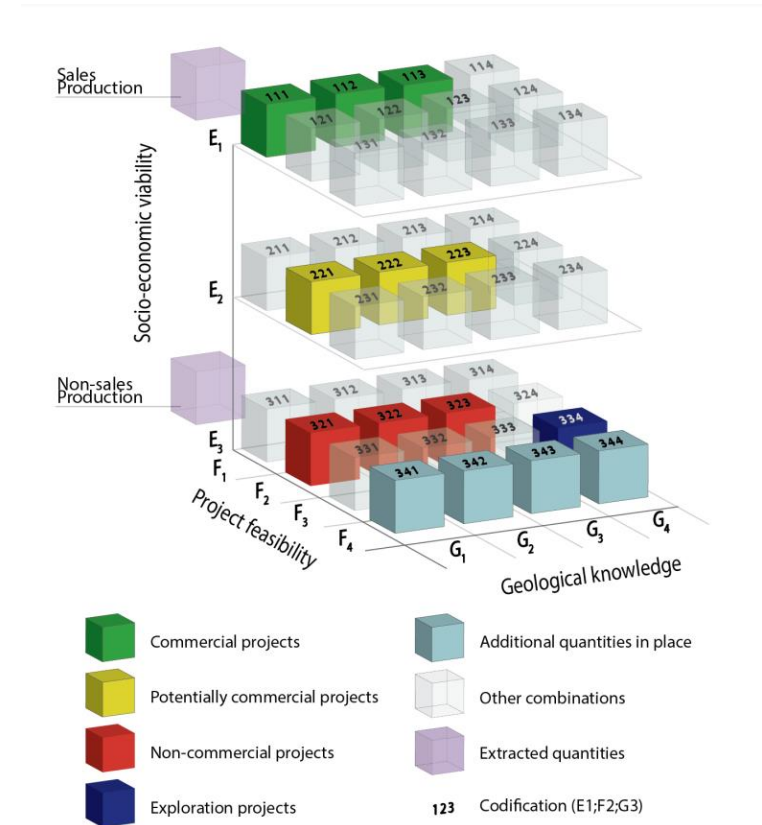




# UNFC in the EU

## Why using UNFC ?

- To **compare projects for different resources** (e.g. minerals, secondary raw materials, including EoL, hydrogen, renewable energies, etc.)
- To **classify projects along the value chain**: exploration, mining, processing, recycling,...
- To **assess environmental and social performance** of the projects
- To **monitor the development** (maturity) of projects over time;
- To **transpose information** from a wide range of reporting systems (bridging documents);
- Because it is **simple to use**;
- Because it imposes **no extra burden** to users.





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**Thanks for your attention !**

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