

United Nations Framework Classification for Resources including case studies on anthropogenic resources and its provisions on the Critical Raw Materials Act proposal

Ulrich Kral, Slavko Solar, 28. June 2023

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EUROPEAN CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS ACT

COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL FROM 16 MARCH 2023 - COM(2023)160 FINAL

**Ensuring a secure and sustainable supply
of critical raw materials for the EU**

**Creating secure and resilient
supply chains**

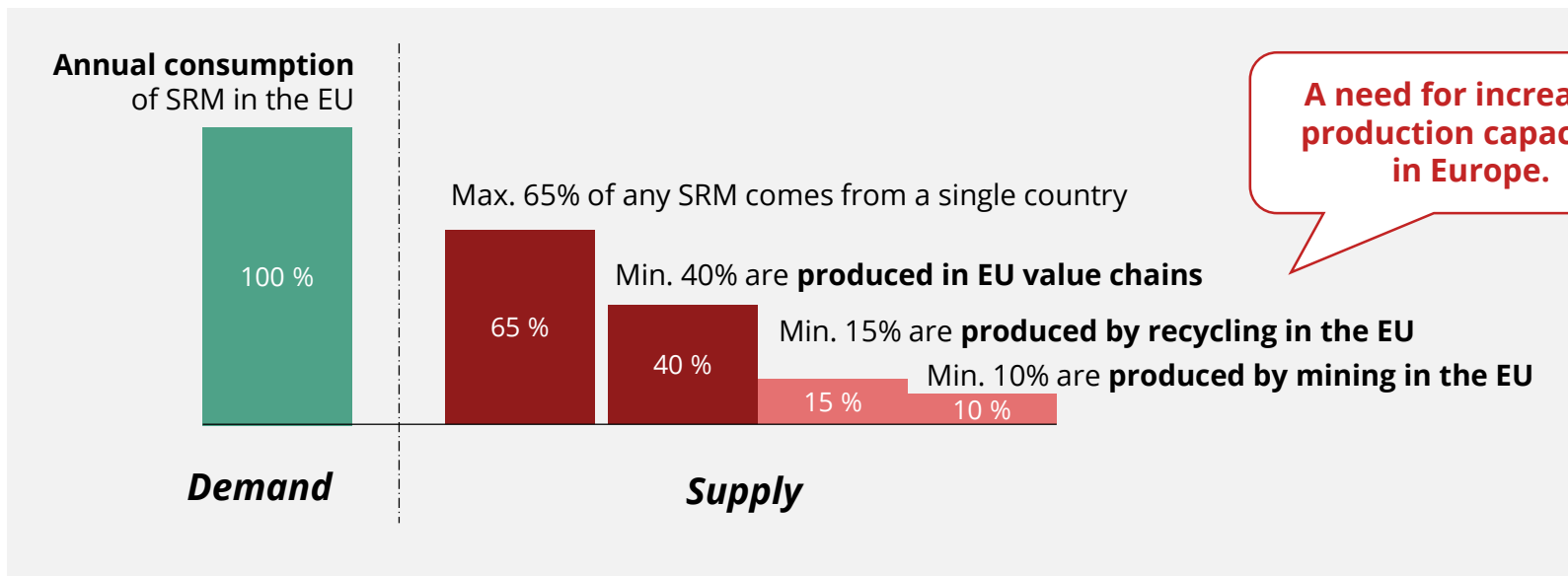
**Supply risk preparedness and
mitigation**

**Improving sustainability and
circularity of CRMs on EU market**

**Diversifying the Union's imports of
raw materials**

BENCHMARKS BY 2030

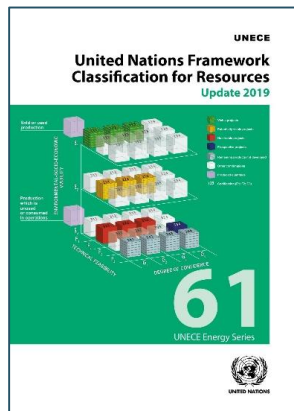
The Regulation sets clear benchmarks for **domestic capacities along the strategic raw material supply chain** and to **diversify EU supply by 2030**:



SUSTAINABLE GROWTH OF PRODUCTION CAPACITIES

- Increasing production capacities requires the **development of raw material projects**.
- **Stakeholders** need **reliable information for decision making**.
- Information disclosure with the help of the **UN Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC)**.

UN Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC)



The UNFC classifies raw material projects based on their maturity level

Prospective project

Non-viable project

Potentially viable project

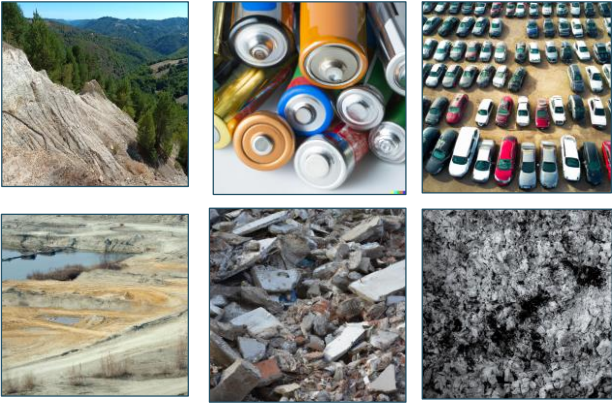
Viable project

The maturity level is affected by

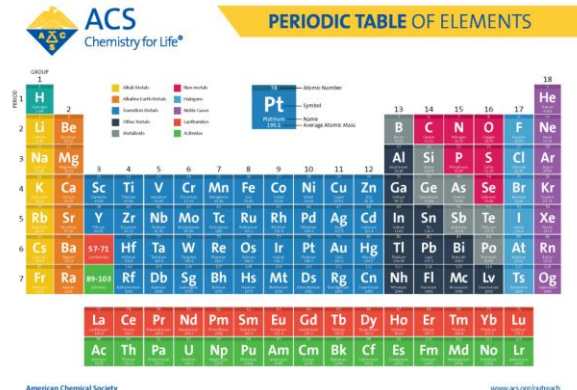
- environmental-socio-economic viability;
- technical feasibility;
- level of confidence on future production volumes;

UNFC IS APPLICABLE TO (RE)MINING & RECYCLING PROJECTS

Feedstock




Raw Materials



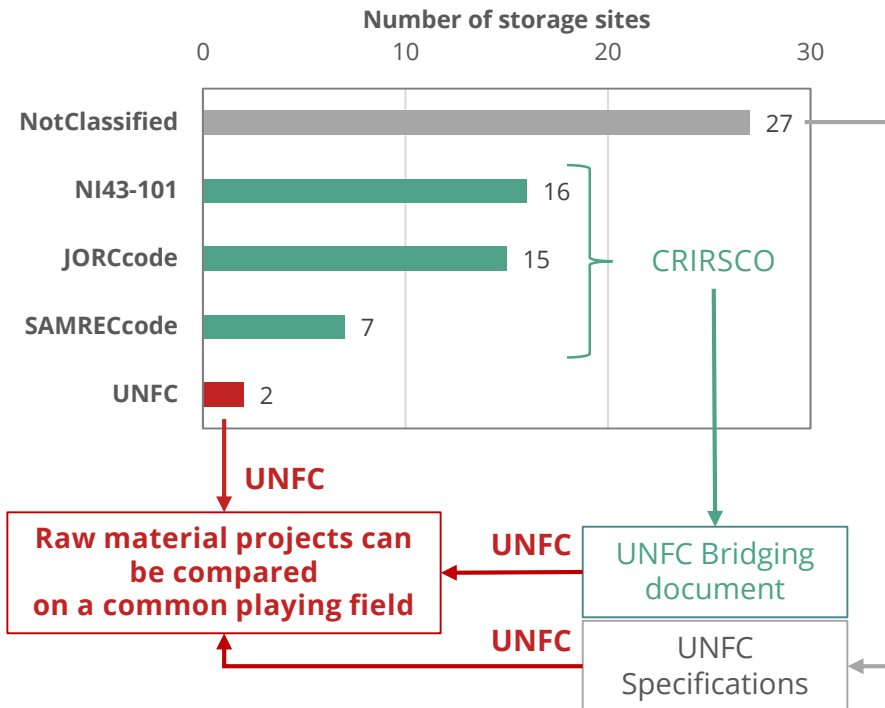
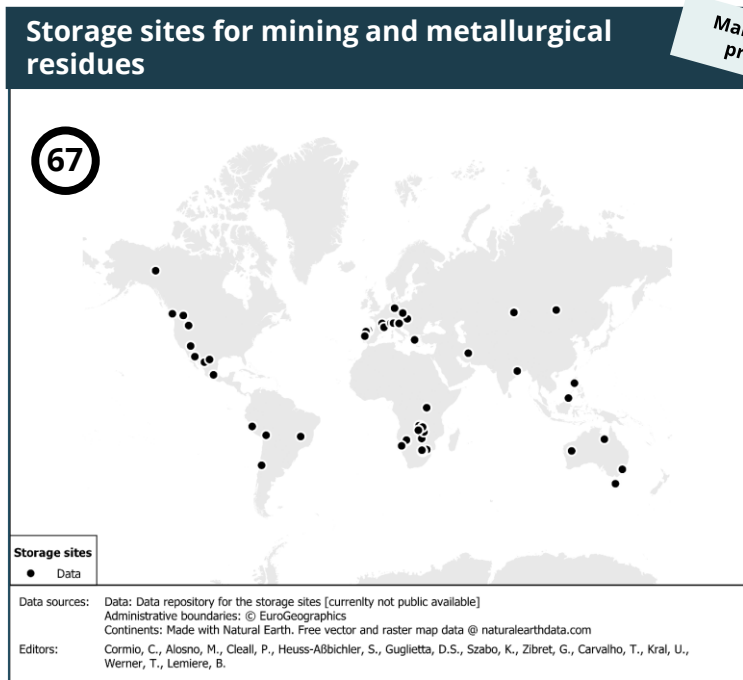
ACS
Chemistry for Life®

PERIODIC TABLE OF ELEMENTS

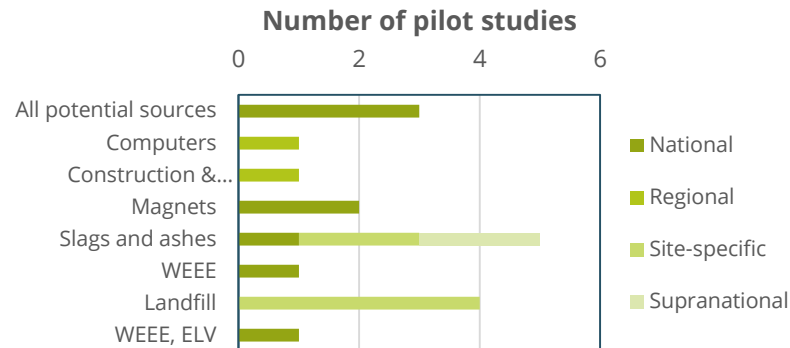
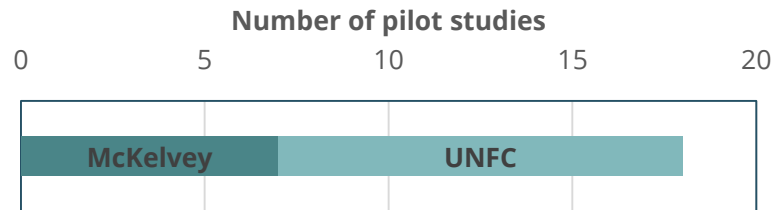
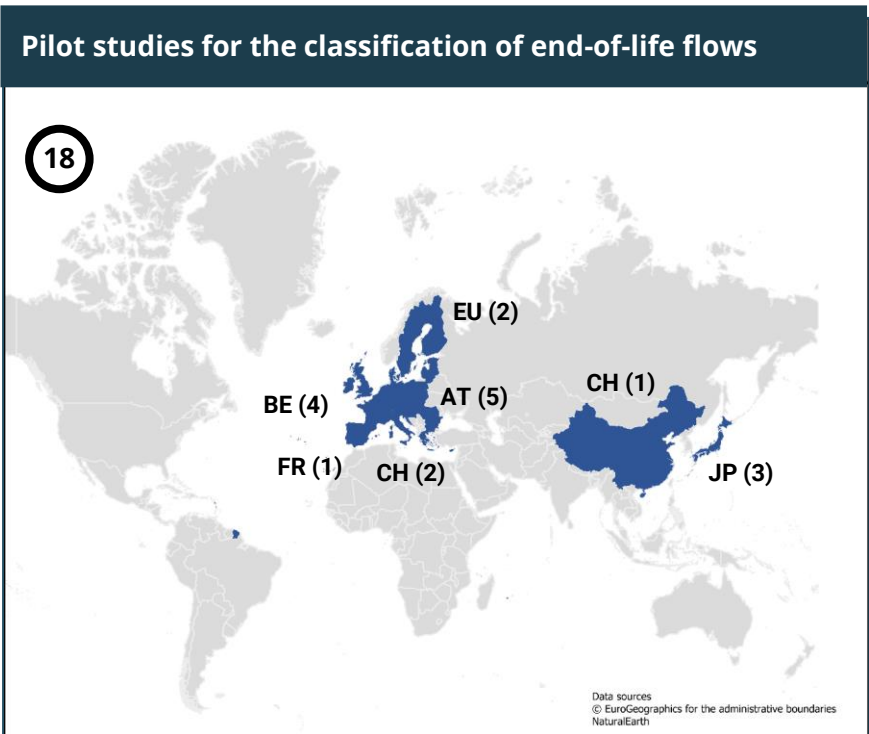
American Chemical Society www.acs.org/whatweh

<https://www.acs.org/education/whatischemistry/periodictable.html>

(RE)MINING: MINING AND METALLURGICAL RESIDUES

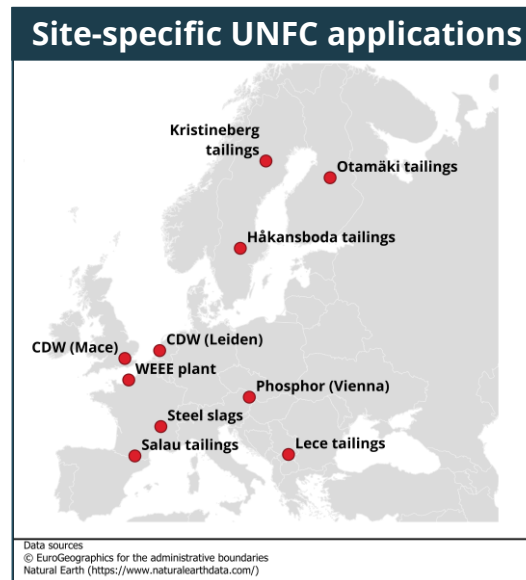
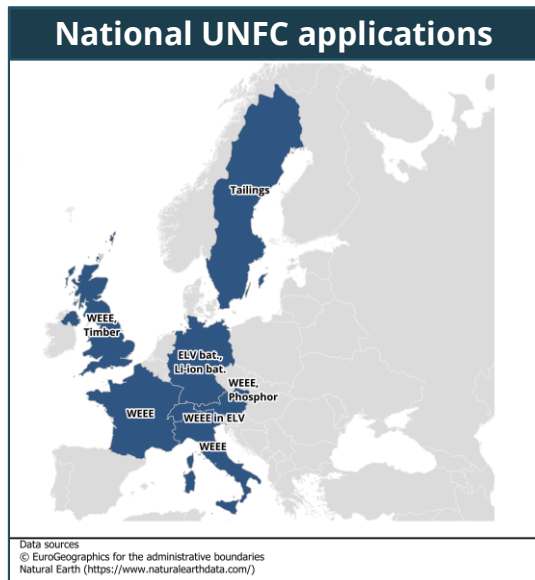


RECYCLING: END-OF-LIFE FLOWS



FUTURE AVAILABILITY OF SECONDARY RAW MATERIALS

EU PROJECT, 2022-2026, www.futuram.eu

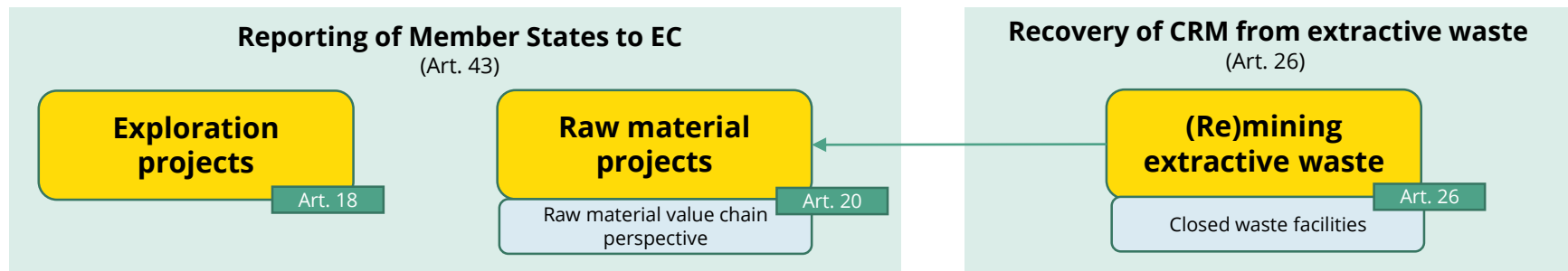


Harmonized UNFC implementation

Reporting standard including UNFC

UNFC IN THE CRM ACT

UNFC is considered in the CRM Act to disclose raw material information.



MS shall make the information on their **mineral occurrences** containing CRMs... **publicly available on a free access website.**

This information shall, where applicable, include the **classification of the identified occurrences using the UNFC.**

MS shall provide information **on any new or existing raw material project** on their territory.

Classification of **new projects according to the UNFC.**

Operators obliged to submit waste management plans shall provide a **preliminary economic assessment study** to competent authority.

Publicly accessible database of all closed waste facilities with information such as

- **quantities and concentrations** of all raw materials contained in the extractive waste
- Where possible, a **classification according to UNFC.**

STRATEGIC PROJECTS

Criteria for recognition of Strategic Projects

Contribution	Feasibility	ESG	Shared benefits
<p>the project would make a meaningful contribution to the security of the EU's supply of strategic raw materials;</p>	<p>the project is or will become technically feasible within a reasonable timeframe; production volume can be estimated</p>	<p>the project would be implemented sustainably; prevention and minimisation of environmental impacts, use of socially responsible practices, use of transparent business practices with adequate compliance policies</p>	<p><u>EU</u>: cross-border benefits beyond the Member State <u>Non-EU</u>: mutual benefits for the EU and the third country, adding value in the third country;</p>

Benefits of selected Strategic Projects

Support for access to finance	Shorter permitting timeframes
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Applications require the use of UNFC

CRM ACT: LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURE 1, 2, 3

Act proposal

The European Commission drafts and proposes the Critical Raw Materials Act and related legislation



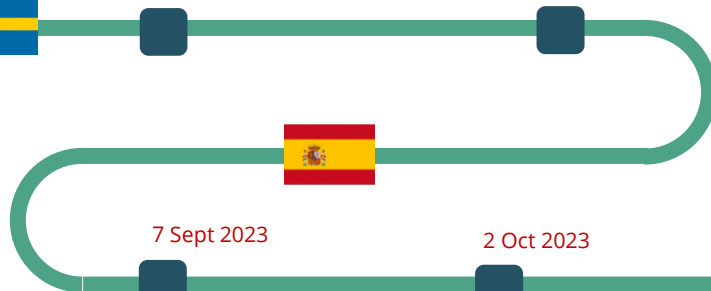
16 March 2023

National, EESC, CoR opinion(s)

Review and feedback from EU Member States, Committee of Regions, and Economic Committee.

Draft report

Review and feedback from EU Member States, Committee of Regions, and Economic Committee.



7 Sept 2023

Committee vote

Review and feedback from EU Member States, Committee of Regions, and Economic Committee.

2 Oct 2023

Plenary vote

European Parliamentary vote, with support of the Council and Commission



Trilogue

Informal trilateral meeting between representatives of the Parliament, the Council and the Commission

Plenary approval

Adoption

1) [https://oeil.secure.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?reference=2023/0079\(COD\)&l=en](https://oeil.secure.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?reference=2023/0079(COD)&l=en)
 2) <https://epthinktank.eu/tag/eu-legislation-in-progress>
 3) <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/56627/presidencies-until-2030.pdf>

5 TAKE-HOME-MESSAGES

- (1) The CRM Act aims for a **secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials** for the EU.
- (2) The 2030 benchmarks require a **sustainable growth of production capacities** in the EU.
- (3) The **UNFC** is considered **to disclose information** on **raw material projects including recycling**.
- (4) Raw material projects, including **recycling**, can be recognized **as strategic projects**.
- (5) Selected **strategic projects** will **benefit** from **support for access to finance and shorter permitting timeframes**.

CONTACT & INFORMATION

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Weblinks

[European Critical Raw Materials Act](#)

[UN Framework Classification for Resources](#)

CRM Act / UNFC

Frankfurt, 28. June 2023