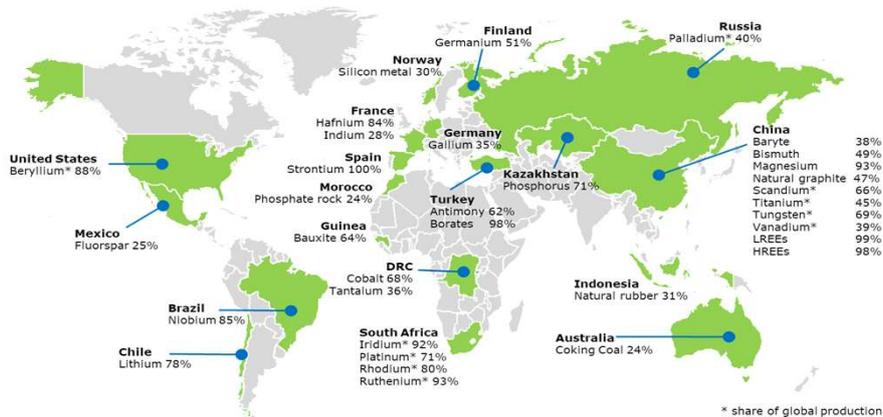




# “The Importance of Metals to the Future of Energy in Europe”

*Titas Anuskevicius*  
 DG GROW  
 European Commission

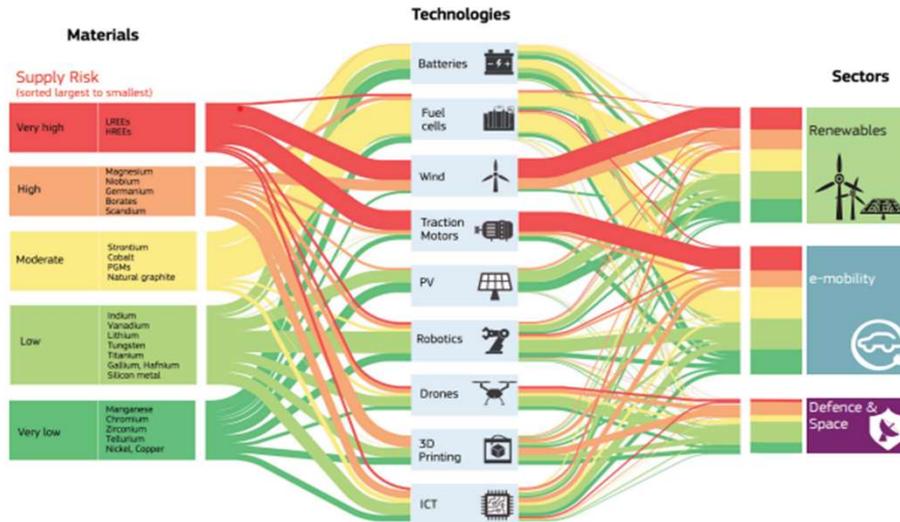
## EU's dependence on concentrated supply sources for raw materials



Biggest supplier countries of Critical Raw Materials to the EU (CRM factsheet, 2020)

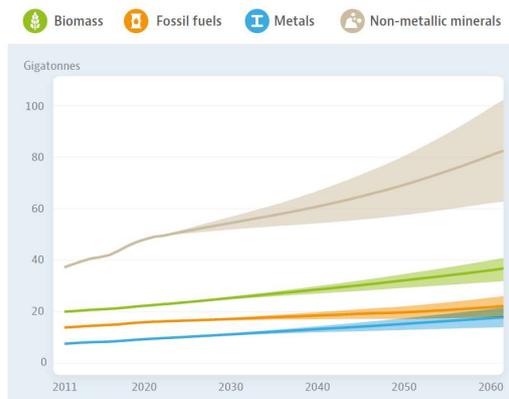


## Result - supply risk for the twin transitions



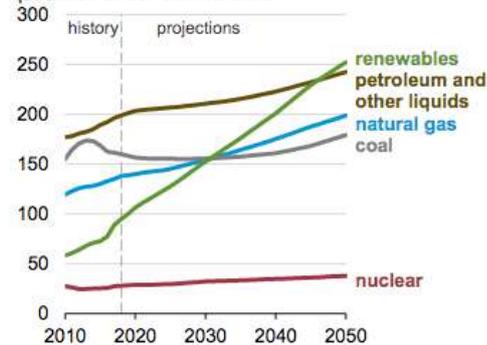
## Global demand set to exceed global supply

Figure 6. Growth in materials use depends on population and economic growth assumptions



Source: OECD, Global Material Resources Outlook to 2060, 2019.

Global primary energy consumption by energy source quadrillion British thermal units



Source: Energy Information Administration, International Energy Outlook 2019.



# The energy transition is a commodities transition

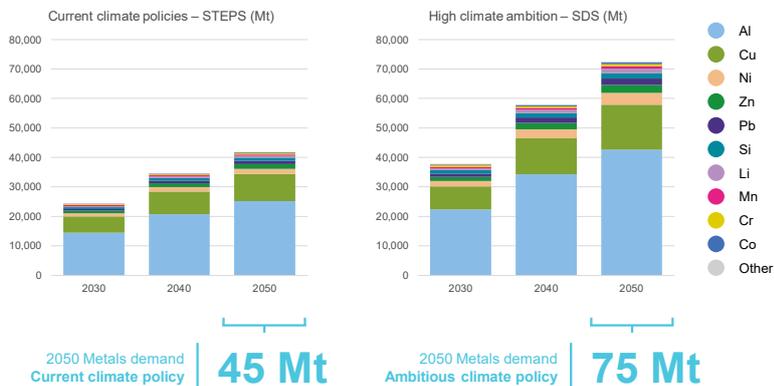
## Fact

The faster the world decarbonises, the higher its metals requirements

## Question

By how much?

Total metal demand by commodity in a STEPS and SDS scenario respectively (Mt)



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# Clean energy technologies will transform global metals markets

## Fact

All based on metals: Batteries, Solar PV, Hydrogen, Magnets, Electric Cars, Wind Turbines, Power cables

## Question

How will global demand for metals shift?

% metal required in 2050 for clean energy technologies vs. 2020 overall use (SDS ambitious climate scenario).

<b>Li</b> Lithium	2109%	<b>Si</b> Silicon	62%
<b>Dy</b> Dysprosium	433%	<b>Tb</b> Terbium	62%
<b>Co</b> Cobalt	403%	<b>Cu</b> Copper	51%
<b>Te</b> Tellurium	277%	<b>Al</b> Aluminium	43%
<b>Sc</b> Scandium	204%	<b>Sn</b> Tin	28%
<b>Ni</b> Nickel	168%	<b>Ge</b> Germanium	24%
<b>Pr</b> Praseodymium	110%	<b>Mo</b> Molybdenum	22%
<b>Ga</b> Gallium	77%	<b>Pb</b> Lead	22%
<b>Nd</b> Neodymium	66%	<b>In</b> Indium	17%
<b>Pt</b> Platinum	64%	<b>Zn</b> Zinc	14%
<b>Ir</b> Iridium	63%	<b>Ag</b> Silver	10%

Aluminium Copper Zinc Silicon
Lithium Nickel Cobalt
Dysprosium Neodymium Praseodymium



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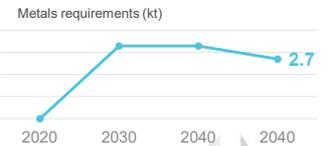
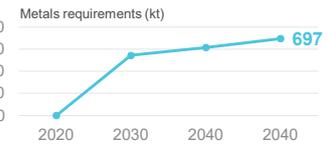
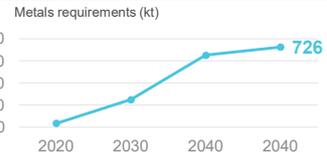
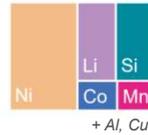
# What about demand in Europe?

Until now, batteries, solar panels, magnets have been built elsewhere...



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But Europe has concrete industrial plans to build its own technologies



## Europe's energy transition = Massive increase in metals demand by 2050



### Base metals

Widely used today, in high volumes across the European economy

**Al** +33%  
Aluminium

**Cu** +35%  
Copper

**Si** +50%  
Silicon

Top transition uses:



### Battery materials

Low EU use today (except nickel), big increase from new battery cathode manufacture

**Ni** +103%  
Nickel

**Co** +331%  
Cobalt

**Li** +3,500%  
Lithium

**+ Manganese & Graphite**

Top transition uses:



### Rare earths

Low EU use today, big increase if EU establishes permanent magnet value chain

**Pr** +587%  
Praseodymium

**Dy** +827%  
Dysprosium

**Nd** +2,666%  
Neodymium

Top transition uses:



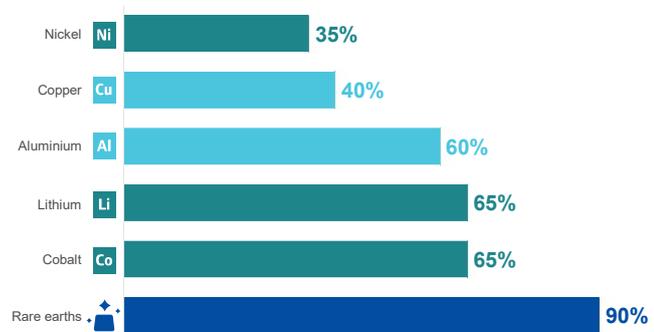
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## Europe's energy transition (Continued)

### Challenge

How can we avoid filling Europe's demand gap only with imports from single suppliers?

### China's share of global processing



#### + Control of:

- Cobalt mines
- Majority of Indonesian nickel
- Growing South American lithium assets

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## Magnesium shortage case-study

### An identified dependency

- 2001: last plant closure in EU/EEA (Norway)
- 89% of global production in China
- 93% of magnesium used in the EU is from China
- Mg identified as a Critical Raw Material in EU (2011, 2014, 2017 and 2020 editions)

### The consequences of inaction

- Energy crisis in China creates temporary plant closures and production slowdown
- Sept. 2021 shortage affect EU downstream industries : packaging, steel, defence, automotive, etc.;
- Orders cancelled; price increase; risk of supply shortages

### Solution

- Boost EU production: identify projects and investments
- Diversify EU value chains: explore opportunities for alternative sourcing and cooperation





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## Without new mines opening in mature markets, Europe's self-sufficiency will decline

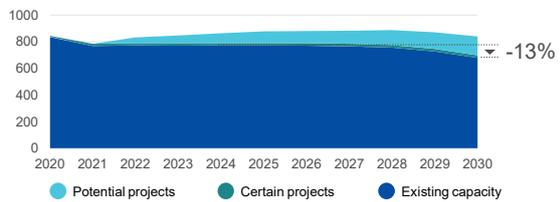
### Copper, nickel, zinc, cobalt

- Thinner project pipelines
- Limited 2030 self-sufficiency rate (4-25%)
- 2030 depletion ranges of up to 20%

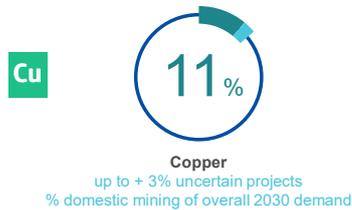
### Challenges

Local opposition, challenging economics, permitting, untested technologies

Copper - European mine output



Copper - European self-sufficiency rate



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## Europe will need more refinery capacity in next 5 years to keep pace with energy transition

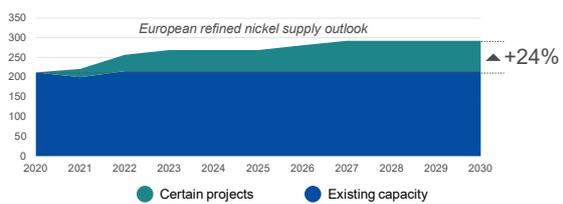
### Nickel, lithium, rare earths

- New EU refining projects announced with medium-sized growth potential
- Allows European customers to bypass China route (and CO<sub>2</sub> impacts)

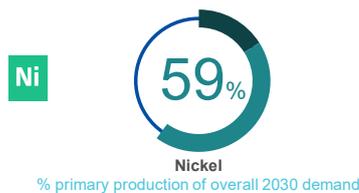
### Question

Can Europe create competitive and predictable business conditions for long-term investment?

European metal output



European self-sufficiency rate



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## 2 Keeping metals refining in Europe requires a fix to energy crisis

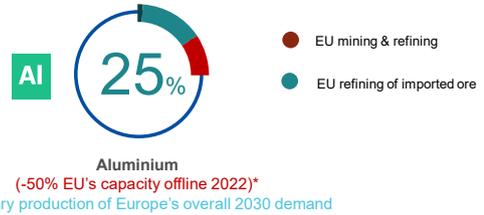
### Aluminium, zinc, silicon

- High energy prices have critical impact on power intensive smelters, with 50% of capacity offline today
- Subsidised imports, require trade defence measures

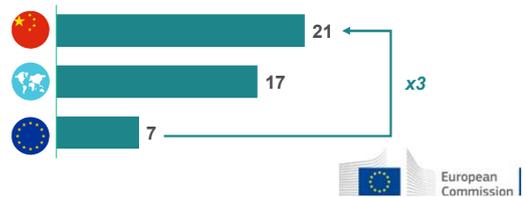
### Question

Can Europe stop its existing supply being replaced by more carbon-intensive imports?

### European self-sufficiency rate



### Average CO<sub>2</sub> footprint of primary production (tCO<sub>2</sub>/t Al)



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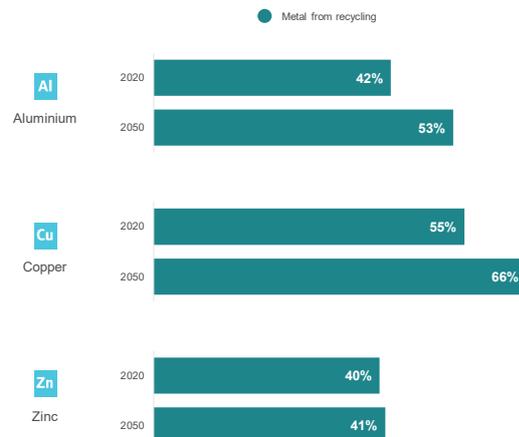
## 4 Recycling is Europe's key long-term driver in creating strategic autonomy

Circular Economy actions will raise base metals recycling rates

### Mature markets

Aluminium, Copper, Zinc

- Recycling can supply 40-65% of Europe's higher base metals demand in 2050
- Recycling bottlenecks must be addressed to raise rates:
  - Improved collection and sorting systems
  - Smarter product design
  - Control of scrap leakage



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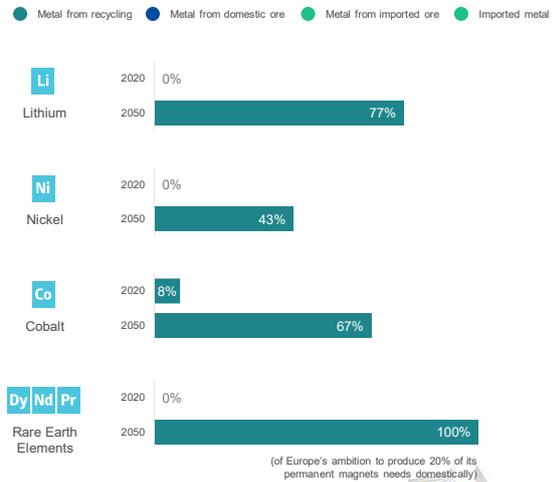
## Recycling is Europe's key long-term driver in creating strategic autonomy

### Massive potential after 2040 for new energy commodities

#### New energy commodities

Lithium, cobalt, nickel, rare earth elements

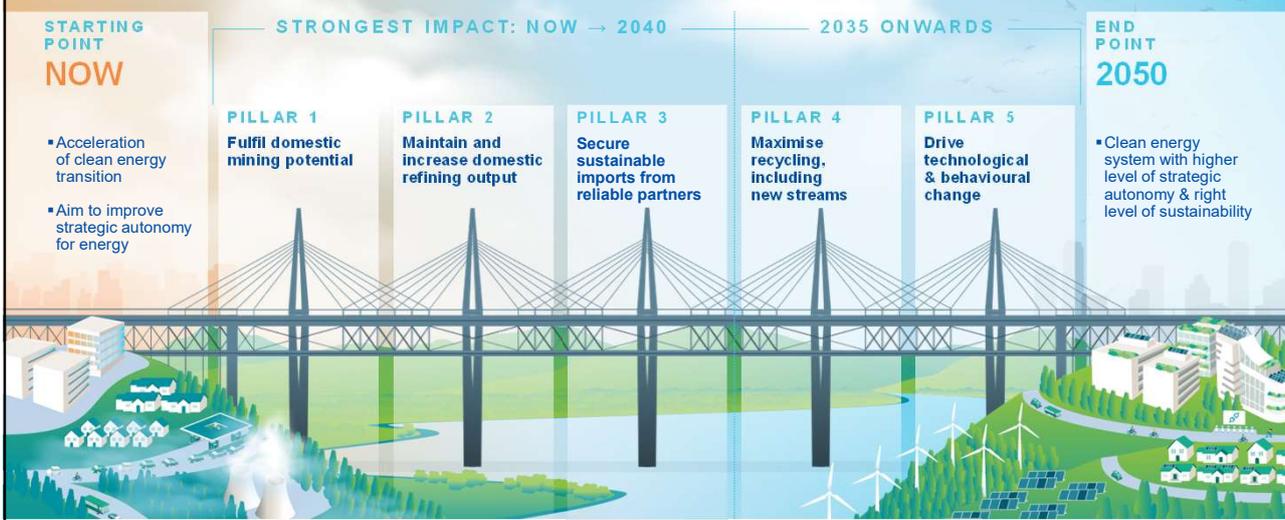
- Recycling volumes will rise after 2040, with potential in 2050 for:
  - 65-75% of Europe's battery cathode plans\*
  - >100% of Europe's magnet supply chain plans\*
- High supply from electric vehicles with 15 years expected lifetime
- Required:
  - New recycling capacity
  - Process improvements
  - Economic viability



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## Five necessary pillars for Europe's metals & clean energy bridge



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## Action plan on Critical Raw Materials, 10 actions

1. European Raw Materials Alliance
2. Develop sustainable financing criteria for mining
3. Research and innovation on waste processing, advanced materials and substitution
4. Map the potential supply of secondary CRM from EU stocks and wastes
5. Identify priority mining and processing projects for critical raw materials in the EU
6. Develop expertise and skills
7. Deploy Earth observation programmes for exploration, operation and post-closure environmental management
8. Develop research and innovation projects on exploitation and processing of CRMs
9. Develop strategic international partnerships to secure CRMs supply
10. Promote responsible mining practices for CRMs



## Time for action – the political mandate

### **Heads of State/Government Versailles Declaration on 11/3/2022**

Reducing our strategic dependencies - secure EU supply of Critical raw materials by means of

- strategic partnerships,
- exploring strategic stockpiling and
- promoting a circular economy and resource efficiency;

### **REPowerEU Plan on 18/5/2022**

- Intensify the work on the supply of critical raw materials and prepare a legislative proposal.

### **The State of the Union speech by President von der Leyen on 14/9/2022**

The European Commission intends to table proposal on

- European legislation on Critical Raw Materials;





Thank you