Why not join us
YOUR REPRESENTATION, OUR COMMITMENT

Euromines is the recognized representative of the European metals and minerals mining industry. The association's main objective is to promote the industry and to maintain its relations with European institutions at all levels. Euromines provides services to its members with regard to EU policy and serves as a network for cooperation and for the exchange of information throughout the sector within Europe. The association also fosters contacts with the mining community throughout the world.

Be a part of it!

YOUR VOICE, OUR COMPETENCE

Euromines represents large and small companies and subsidiaries in Europe and in other parts of the world which provide jobs to more than 350,000 people. Through the activities and operations of these members, more than 42 different metals and minerals are produced. For some metals and minerals, Europe is the world's leading producer.

Our objectives:

- To promote the extractive industry as a contributor to sustainable development in Europe and around the world.

- To promote the extractive industry towards the European authorities as:
  - an economically crucial sector,
  - a responsible environmental sector,
  - a responsible employer,
  - an innovative sector.

- To further strengthen Euromines as the spokes-organism for the extractive industry.

Let your voice be heard!
YOUR SOURCE OF INFORMATION, OUR SERVICES

Euromines provides a formal platform in which the members evaluate the impact of European and International policies and legislation on the industry and define common positions and actions.

Euromines activity towards the EU Institutions:

- Monitoring and evaluating the EU policies and their impact on the sector.
- Providing inputs and comments to the EU Commission on the issues related to the extractive industry.
- Promoting the concept of the sector’s contribution to sustainable development to the European Institutions.
- Cooperation with EU Commission on organizing conferences focused on implementation of the EU legislation.

Be well informed!

The association is based in Brussels and holds membership meetings twice a year. Its working committees and groups meet regularly throughout the year. Its major activities cover the areas of environment, health and safety, research and development, sustainable development, communication and international cooperation.

Euromines is following trade and investment questions for the mining industry outside and inside Europe.

YOUR INTERFACE, OUR CONTRIBUTION

Euromines represents an interface between the European extractive industry and the European authorities and international or intergovernmental bodies. We are establishing a constructive dialogue with the governmental institutions in order to ensure early consultation in all those areas of EU policy and legislation affecting the industry, and to asserting the industry's views and positions.

Euromines advocates the benefit and value of both the products and the industry to society, endeavouring to uphold the industry's interests and raising public awareness accordingly.

Shape the future of the extractive industry in Europe!
Membership:
countries represented

Austria
Bulgaria
Czech Republic
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Ireland
The Netherlands
Poland
Romania
Slovakia
Spain
Sweden
Turkey
UK

Mining in Europe: Tradition & Innovation

The European mining industry has a long tradition, yet today it is also among the continent's most modern and most innovative industrial sectors. Discovering new deposits, mining and ore dressing all require major emphasis on research and development. Mining exploration, extraction and beneficiation are now supported by high-level technologies. The industry also promotes advancements in the areas of environmental, health and safety protection.

The European mining industry is fundamental for the continent's economic well-being. Consumption of aggregates, industrial minerals and metals in Europe has grown rapidly over the past decade. Today, Europe is almost self-sufficient in producing many industrial minerals and aggregates. However, it is a significant net-importer of most metals and metal ores.

Europe is rich in natural resources and the extraction and supply of minerals continue to play a crucial role in the European economy and society as it has done for thousands of years. Minerals are used in everyday life, as construction materials (crushed rock, sand and gravel) for infrastructure, buildings, and roads, and for industrial purposes (e.g. metals, lime, kaolin, silica sand, talc) in the production of steel, cars, computers, medicines, human and animal foodstuffs and fertilizers, to name just a few key applications.
Caring about Environment

Industrial minerals and metal ores can only be extracted from their naturally occurring geological locations. In that respect, mining activities invariably have some impact on the environment, and the minimization of such impact should be integrated into the conduct of all mining activities.

The European mining industry is committed to taking all necessary steps to improve its environmental impact. All European mining operations are now legally obliged to consider environmental protection throughout the life of a mine from the very first exploration stage to mine closure and after-care.

Waste management, water protection, air emissions and biodiversity are key issues in the sector. The European mining industry is currently working particularly hard on sharing and communicating best practices in the area of waste management.

Supporting Education

Europe has been a mining area for centuries and has traditionally high-quality programs for mining and mineral engineering at many universities. Most are associated with the Society of Mining Professors. Changing circumstances in Europe since the 1970s led to new challenges in the organization of the education at European universities in the field of mining engineering and minerals engineering, the latter including processing, metallurgy and recycling. The global market for mining and mineral processing engineers also led to a challenge: to provide an increasing number of exchange programs for students and staff between universities, thereby ensuring that Europe maintains its skills in this important economic area.

In order to optimize and enhance the quality of education, a number of universities decided to establish a joint curriculum during the final year of their study programs. Three options exist:

- The European Mining Course (EMC)
- The European Mineral Engineering Course (EMEC)
- The European Geotechnical and Environmental Course (EGEC)

The industry (members of Euromines and the supply industry) support these programs and are united in the Federation of European Mineral Programs.

Promoting International Cooperation

Euromines' membership includes many companies which have operations outside of Europe and/or have other commercial interests around the globe. Therefore, the European mining industry is interested and involved in numerous international issues and organizations.

Euromines is a member of the International Council of Mining & Metals (ICMM) and actively participates in its programs.


Reaching Highest Standards of Health and Safety

Euromines’ members adhere to the Guidelines for Sustainable Development in the European Mining Sector as published in June 1999. All members are encouraged to achieve the highest standard of occupational health and safety for all who work in the sector. With regard to health and safety, the Euromines guidelines state that members shall:

- Seek continual improvement of good, safe, healthy and positive working conditions, taking all protection measures necessary;
- Identify and minimize potential risks associated with mining and adopt suitable preventative measures to remove or reduce such risks.

The European mining industry is committed to continuously improving its health and safety record and, in many cases, it goes beyond legal compliance in the management and measures taken.

Encouraging Research & Development

The mining industry is one of the base industries in Europe, and it provides the material base for many other European business and industrial sectors.

The European mining industry has undergone considerable change over the past decades. In order to stay competitive in comparison to its non-European competitors, it has undertaken major investments and changes in technology. More and more, the mining industry is using remote-controlled and automated technology and is thereby increasing not only its efficiency but also the safety at its workplaces. In doing so, the sector has also become in many areas a top technology supplier globally.

The industry has established the European Mineral Resources RTD Council (EMiReC). It is the task of this Council to establish the research priorities for the sector and to give guidance to researchers from industry, academia and other areas dealing with research and development. It is the Council’s responsibility to encourage research in such a way that the long-term sustainable development of the sector can be guaranteed. The Council brings together representatives and projects as well as information from a large number of enterprises, institutions and universities from all over Europe, linked together through information and communication platforms, events, meetings, publications and intensive communication.

Euromines is also a member of the European Technology Platform on Sustainable Mineral Resources (ETP SMR). The platform was created in the preparation of the European Seventh Framework Programme (2007-2013) for funding.
research and technical development. One of its first realizations was drafting a Strategic Research Agenda for the European Minerals Industries. Euromines has actively contributed to writing this draft. Additional information on the ETP SMR can also be found at www.etpsmr.org

**Contributing to Sustainable Development**

The fundamental principle of sustainable development is to serve the essential needs of mankind at present while at the same time protecting and ensuring the needs of future generations. Economic, environmental and social concerns constitute the three basic pillars of the sustainable development principle.

The extractive industry contributes to sustainable development by integrating economic growth with environmental protection, social progress and effective governance.

Euromines' members have set forth and adhere to a series of guidelines for sustainable development in the European mining sector. These guidelines are based on the precept that access to and use of minerals and metals are essential to a sustainable society, to society's well-being and to economic development. In addition to the above-stated principles on health and safety, other key guidelines state that members shall:

- Conduct their activities according to principles which promote sustainable development;
- Conduct their activities to ensure their long-term viability in order to develop and meet the demands and expectations of modern society for minerals and metals;
- Conduct their affairs in a properly accountable manner with respect to all financial matters and the environmental and social aspects of their operations;
- Seek continual improvement of environmental performance on the basis of sound science and technical and economic feasibility;
- Consider environmental protection throughout the life of a mine, from its exploration to its closure;
- Facilitate and encourage the promotion of safe use, recycling and disposal of products through an understanding of their life cycles;
- Promote the conservation of biodiversity and integrated approaches to land use planning;
- Respect human rights, cultures, customs and values of people affected by their activities;
- Adhere to ethical business practices in all operations and to sound systems of governance;
- Be constructive partners to advance the social, economic and institutional development of the communities in which they operate;
- Implement an effective and transparent dialogue, communication and verified reporting arrangements with their stakeholders.

*Additional information: www.euromines.org*