

Saopštenje za javnost
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Mi nismo igralište za rudarsku mafiju

*Lokalne zajednice i nevladine organizacije širom Evrope
se dižu protiv strateških statusa rudarskih projekata*

26. mart 2025. - Juče, Evropska komisija objavila je prvu rundu od 47 projekata označenih kao strateški prema Zakonu o kritičnim sirovinama (CRMA). Iako Srbija nije bila na listi, Predsednik Vučić je potvrdio da će za nedelju dana biti, nakon sastanka sa predsednicom EU komisije Ursulom fon der Lajen.

Uprkos naznačenoj ulozi projekata prema evropskoj nezavisnosti od resursa i reindustrializaciji, značajan broj projekata ekstrakcije je odavno osporavan od strane ekoloških aktivista i akademске zajednice širom Evrope. Reagujući na jučerašnju odluku i vesti od predsednika, Marš sa Drine sa nekoliko nevladinih organizacija i udruženja iz Rumunije, Nemačke, Španije i Portugala reklo je da će osporiti određivanje strateškog statusa Evropske komisije. Među spornim strateškim projektima spadaju veliki litijumski projekti kao što su Jadar u Srbiji (RIO), Mina do Barroso (SAV) i Mina do Romano u Portugalu i Zinnvald u Nemačkoj (ZNVD), kao i Mina Doade and Mina Las Navas u Španiji i projekat zlato-bakar Rovina u Rumuniji (ESM).

Usred sve jačeg geopolitičkog pritiska, CRMA EU nastoji da otključa mineralna partnerstva sa trećim zemljama, kao i domaće ruderstvo metala potrebnih za energetsku tranziciju. Da bi se postiglo najmanje 10% domaće proizvodnje kritičnih minerala do 2030. godine, strateški projekti dobijaju zeleno svetlo za prevladavanje javnog interesa, ubrzano izdavanje dozvola i pristup privatnim i javnim investicijama. Od izrade nacrta CRMA 2023. godine, aktivisti za zaštitu životne sredine i pogodjene zajednice podvukli su nekompatibilnost zakona sa postojećim evropskim ekološkim propisima kao što su Direktiva o staništima, Okvirna direktiva o vodama i Direktiva o pticama. Marš sa Drine, zajedno sa Green Legal Impact u Nemačkoj su slali žalbu komisiji u decembru.

"Mi nismo igralište za rudarsku mafiju. Naši advokati u Evropi završavaju pravne žalbe za poništavanje ove odluke. Rio Tinto je pokazao nepoštovanje vladavine prava u Srbiji. Ljudi u Srbiji su očekivali da će, postajući kandidat za EU, institucije EU pomoći u jačanju vladavine prava, a ne podržati diktatora koji daje besplatne propusnice za uništavanje životne sredine kako bi napunio svoje džepove. Nezamislivo je da tokom političke pobune u Srbiji Predsednica fon der Lejen večera sa Vučićem i razgovara o litijumu. Zajedno sa kolegama širom Evrope mi krećemo u novu akciju, i već organizujemo pravne korake kako bi ponovo i uspešno usporili Projekat Jadar, a i druge projekte koji utiču na naše prijatelje u Srbiji", kaže Bojana Novaković iz Marša sa Drine.

"Vađenje jeftinih sirovina za automobilsku industriju u Nemačkoj i drugde ugrožava naš način života. Mi, koji živimo od održivog stočarstva i zavisimo od čistih reka i zelenih pašnjaka, imali bismo samo nedostatke. Predlog je daleko od pravedne tranzicije - ruderstvo u Portugalu se ne pridržava pravila, a vlasti ne rade ništa", objašnjava Nelson Gomes iz građanske inicijative u Kovas do Barozu.

"U našem planinskom regionu na nemačko-češkoj granici, dve različite kompanije nameravaju da iskopaju isto rudno telo sa dve strane. Kumulativni uticaj ova dva velika rudnika na zaštićene lokacije i na susedna sela i gradove se ne razmatra. Iz prošlosti našeg regiona znamo da što su rudnici veći to je veća šteta. Nećemo to dozvoliti ponovo", objašnjava **Anja Weber iz Bärensteina**.

"U Španiji je moderno rudarstvo izazvalo toliko razaranja i zagađenja, a sa njim i nepravde, kriminala, korupcije i patnje. CRMA će to umnožiti. Status strateškog projekta je pokušaj da se da legitimitet nelegalnim i destruktivnim projektima, dok su zajednice potkopane i pretvorene u 'javne neprijatelje' materijale Komisije", Joam Evans, iz Iberijske rudarske opservatorije.

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Press Release

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You will not mine here

Community organisations and NGOs to contest strategic status designation

EU mining 'boom' faces long legal battle

26th March, 20254 - Yesterday, the EU announced strategic projects under the Critical Raw Materials Act(CRMA) and even though Serbia was not on the list, Serbia's president confirmed that it will be, following a meeting with President von der Leyen. Announced were 47 proposals in the EU member states. Despite the projects' designated role towards Europe's resource independence and re-industrialization, a significant number of extraction projects have since long been contested by environmentalists and residents alike. In reaction to the decision, several NGOs and community associations from Romania, Germany, Spain, and Portugal said they will be challenging the European Commission's strategic status designation. Contested strategic projects include major lithium projects such as Mina do Barroso (SAV) and Mina do Romano in Portugal, Mina Doade and Mina Las Navas in Spain, and the Rovina gold-copper project in Romania (ESM).

"The Rovina gold-copper open cast mine will destroy pristine nature and displace communities and the Commission's designation legitimizes a project deemed illegal by courts in Romania. This is destruction, not development, and we will fight until the end. Unlike investors or governments, we have time and determination," states Roxana Pencea-Bradatan from MiningWatch Romania.

Amidst tightening geopolitical pressure, the EU's CRMA strives to unlock mineral partnerships with third countries and also domestic mining of metals needed for the energy transition. To achieve at

least 10% of domestic production of critical minerals by 2030, strategic projects are green-lighted for overriding public interest, fast-tracked permitting and access to private and public investment. Since the drafting of the CRMA in 2023, environmental campaigners and affected communities underlined the incompatibility of the act with existing European environmental regulations such as the Habitats Directive, the Water Framework Directive and the Birds directive.

"In our mountain region at the German-Czech border, two different companies intend to mine the same ore body from two sides. The cumulative impact of these two large mines on protected sites and on adjacent villages and towns is not being considered. From our region's past we know that the larger the mines the greater the harm. We will not allow this again," explains Anja Weber, a local from Bärenstein, where British investor Zinnwald Lithium Plc wants to develop a processing plant and mining waste deposit.

"As we speak our lawyers are finalizing the legal appeals to overrule today's decision. Rio Tinto has shown disregard for the rule of law in Serbia. People in Serbia expected that by becoming an EU candidate, EU institutions would help strengthen the rule of law, not support a dictator who gives free passes to environmental destruction so as to line his own pockets.

it is unthinkable that during the political uprising in serbia, president von der leyen is having dinner with vucic and discussing lithium.

Europe is a union of people and together with my German, Romanian, Spanish and Portuguese colleagues, we are taking action together. Just as we know that you would never accept to be evicted for greed and corruption, we know that you would never want this to happen to any of us," states Bojana Novaković from Marš sa Drine in Jadar/ Serbia.

"The extraction of cheap raw materials for the automotive industry in Germany and elsewhere jeopardises our way of life. We, who live from sustainable livestock farming and depend on clean rivers and green pastures, would only experience disadvantages. The proposal is far from a Just Transition - mining in Portugal does not abide by the rules and the authorities do nothing. The four planned open-cast mines and tailings sites are neither environmentally nor socially acceptable. We will therefore formally ask the EU Commission to review its decision," explains Nelson Gomes from the citizens' initiative in Covas do Barroso. In the north of Portugal, the initiative is opposing the plans of British investor Savannah Resources.

"In Spain, modern mining has generated so much destruction and pollution and with it injustice, crime, corruption and suffering. The CRMA will multiply this. Strategic project status is an attempt to give

legitimacy to illegal and destructive projects, while communities are undermined and turned into ‘public enemies’ by the Commission’s narrative of securitization of raw materials,” argues Joám Evans, from the Iberian Mining Observatory, a civil society watchdog for the mining industry.

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