

**Answer from Eramet on the allegations made in the report
« Mining the Depts of Influence : How the industry is forging the EU Critical Raw Material Act »
from Friends of the Earth Europe, July 2023**

31 July 2023

We are grateful for the opportunity given by Business & Human Rights Resource Center to respond to the allegations made against Eramet and to reiterate that Eramet is committed to responsible mining and to transparency with regard to its environmental and social impacts.

We have decided to apply the most existing demanding standard, the one proposed by the Initiative Responsible Mining Assurance called IRMA. The IRMA Standard establishes an international standard to assess the performance of operating mines from a social and environmental point of view. This standard was developed over a ten-year period through a public consultation process involving more than 100 entities and various organizations, including mining companies, customers and downstream end-users of mining products, NGOs as Transport & Environment, unions and communities. IRMA governance ensures one equal representation of the various stakeholders, including NGOs such as Human Rights Watch and Earthworks.

In the context of the EU Critical Raw Material Act, we wanted to raise awareness of this standard specifically for mining activities. We're not opposed to a European standard, but we want to maintain the same high standards and have a framework for action without delay.

We call for the European Commission not to create a new sustainability standard because we consider relying on the most ambitious existing international ones to assess the sustainability of any critical raw materials either produced or imported in Europe is the most efficient way to ensure the European consumers with responsible mining products.

In accordance with our Responsible Lobbying Policy, we are committed to communicate reliable, verifiable, and up-to-date information and position and are open to the dialogue with all organizations.

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