



EUROPEAN RESEARCH
PLATFORM ON ENERGY
AND CLIMATE LAW

International Forum on Energy & Climate Law 2025

Responsible Mining

A challenge for energy transition and justice

Thursday 27 November & Friday 28 November

Université Paris Dauphine – PSL

Pl. du Maréchal de Lattre de Tassigny, 75016 Paris

Location: salle Raymond Aron

Thursday 27 November

8.30-9.00 *Welcome coffee*

9.00-9.30 **Opening**

- **Damilola Olawuyi**, Chair of the Academic Advisory Group of the International Bar Association's Section on Energy, Environment, Natural Resources, and Infrastructure Law, Professor and UNESCO Chairholder, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Doha, Qatar,
- **Louis de Fontenelle**, Director of the European Research Platform on Energy and Climate Law and Professor, UMR TREE, University of Pau and Pays de l'Adour, France
- **Vicente López-Ibor Mayor**, President of the European Federation of Energy Law Associations

9.30-10.00 **Keynote speech - Critical materials: geopolitics and economy on the global stage**

K.C. Michaels, Legal Counsel at the International Energy Agency (IEA), Paris, France

Session 1: State of play on Responsible Mining

10.00-11.15 **Roundtable 1: State of play - Mining for the energy transition**

*Chair: **Patrice Geoffreon**, Professor of Economics, Centre for Geopolitics of Energy and Raw Materials, Paris Dauphine University, France*

- *State of play on mining and critical materials* - **Thabani Mlilo**, Managing Director of Moahi Sustainable Solutions and Adjunct Professor, University of Cape Town, South Africa
- *Learning from post-mining experiences in order to responsibly operate future mines* - **Gael Bellenfant**, Environmental expert in mining and mine closure, BRGM, Orléans, France
- *State of play on strategic and critical raw materials* – **Jean-François Gaillaud**, Head of the mineral resources department, French Ministry of Ecological Transition – General Directorate for Planning, Housing and Nature, Paris, France

11.15-11.30 *Coffee Break*



Academic Advisory Group
Section on Energy, Environment,
Natural Resources and Infrastructure Law
International Bar Association



11.30-12.30 Roundtable 2: Why is Responsible Mining necessary for the energy transition?

Chair: **Thibaud Voïta**, Energy Advisor, Jacques Delors Institute, Paris, France

- *Responsible Mining for the Energy Transition: Why Upstream Local Community Engagement Cannot Be an Afterthought* - **Penda Diallo**, Honorary Lecturer in Sustainable Mining, Camborne School of Mines, University of Exeter / Responsible Mining and Community Engagement Adviser
- *Is Responsible and Sustainable Deep Seabed Mining possible ? A legal perspective* - **Niki Aloupi**, Professor of Public International Law, University Paris-Panthéon-Assas / Member of the Legal and Technical Commission of the International Seabed Authority, France

12.30-14.00 Lunch Break (for speakers only)

Session 2: What are the main challenges to integrate within the Responsible Mining framework?

14.00-15.30 Roundtable 3: How can security of supply be reconciled with socio-environmental concerns?

Chair: **Damilola Olawuyi**, Chair of the Academic Advisory Group of the International Bar Association's Section on Energy, Environment, Natural Resources, and Infrastructure Law, Professor and UNESCO Chairholder, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Doha, Qatar

- *Women's mobility, livelihoods, and land disposessions in the small-scale mining economy in Ghana* - **Elizabeth Nana Mbrah Koomson**, Senior Lecturer, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana
- *Lessons from the conflict over the uranium and lithium mine projects in Spain* - **Iñigo Del Guayo**, Professor in Administrative Law, Universidad de Almería, Spain
- *The IRMA Standard: an equally-governed multi-stakeholder mechanism for more responsible mines* - **Pierre Petit de Pasquale**, Standards Director, IRMA, France

15.30-15.45 Coffee Break

15.45-17.00 Roundtable 4: What outstanding challenges still need to be integrated within the Responsible Mining framework?

Chair: **Luis Ferney Moreno Castillo**, President of Asociación Iberoamericana de Derecho de la Energía

- *Intergenerational Equity and the Rights of Future Generations in Subsurface Governance* - **Louis de Fontenelle**, Director of the European Research Platform on Energy and Climate Law and the JPEC project, Professor, UMR TREE, University of Pau and Pays de l'Adour, France
- *Solidarity and Commons* - **Hanri Mostert**, holder of the DST/NRF SARChI Mineral Law in Africa and Professor of Private Law, University of Cape Town, South Africa
- *Legal implications of a degrowth-guided Critical Raw Materials' mining framework* - **Romain Mauger**, Head of Legal Research Unit at the Iberian Centre for Research in Energy Storage (CIAE), Spain (*online*).



Friday 28 November

9.00-9.30 *Welcome coffee*

9.30-10.00 **Keynote speech – Integrating justice in Responsible Mining in international law**

Lorenzo Cotula, Head of Programme *Law, Economics and Justice*, International Institute for Environment and Development, Edinburgh, Scotland (*online*)

Session 3: Implementation – What legal instruments could be used to ensure Just and Responsible Mining?

10.00-11.15 **Roundtable 1: legal instruments and tools for Responsible Mining**

Chair: Iñigo Del Guayo, Professor in Administrative Law, Universidad de Almería, Spain

- *Legislative framing - the question of standard-setting* - **Ibrahim Sanogo**, post-doctoral fellow, BRGM, France
- *The Critical Minerals Act: New Markets, Governance and Conflicts* – **Sanja Bogojevic**, Professor of Law, University of Oxford, United-Kingdom
- *Social acceptability, legal issues* – **Christophe Krolik**, Law Professor, University of Laval, Canada

11.15-11.30 *Coffee Break*

11.30-12.30 **Roundtable 2: Soft law instruments and tools for Responsible Mining**

Chair: Christophe Krolik, Law Professor, University of Laval, Canada

- *The development of a French standard on Responsible Mining exploration* - **David Krupka**, Head of Development, Engineering, Equipment, Materials, and Industry of the Future, AFNOR Group, France
- *Local content: an opportunity for a responsible/sustainable and profitable mining* - **Stéphane Brabant**, Senior Partner of Trinity International AARPI, Paris, France

12.30-14.00 *Lunch Break*

14.00-15.15 **Roundtable 3: Foresight – desirable developments for a Just Transition: how should international and transnational mining law work?**

Chair: Louis de Fontenelle, Director of the European Research Platform on Energy and Climate Law and Professor, UMR TREE, University of Pau and Pays de l'Adour, France

- *The need for an international treaty on minerals and mining* - **Alexandra Harrington**, Chair, IUCN WCEL Plastic Pollution Task Force, Lecturer in Law, Lancaster University, United Kingdom
 - **Florencia Heredia**, Senior Partner of Allende C Brea law firm, Head of the Natural Resources & Energy practice, Buenos Aires, Argentina (*online*)
 - *Reframing Mining Law through the Lens of the Commons* - **Michel Jebrak**, Professor Emeritus, Université de Québec à Montréal (UQAM), Canada
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15.15-15.45 **Closing remarks and announcement of the IECL Forum 2026**

Olivier Vidal, Director of the "Subsurface: a Common Good" Priority Research and Equipment Program (PEPR)

Luis Ferney Moreno Castillo, President of Asociación Iberoamericana de Derecho de la Energía – ASIDE