DRAFT AGENDA: 17/09/2026

VENUE: Knightsbrook Hotel Spa and Golf Resort, Dublin Rd, Iffernock, Trim, Co. Meath, Ireland

WEBSITE: https://2026.minexeurope.com

Pre-Forum DAY **27 October (Tuesday)**

10:00 - 17:00
Ash Suite

WORKSHOP 1: INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT IN MINING
Format: Full-day interactive workshop (10am-5pm, 6 hours CPD)

Aileen Doran, Sustainability & Raw Materials Consultant, Satarla
Chris Stockey, Climate Change and Nature Lead, Satarla

Organiser
Satarla is a specialist consultancy and training provider focused on risk management, sustainability and the extractive industries.

Overview: Mining projects operate in an increasingly complex environment shaped by geopolitical uncertainty, evolving regulations, supply chain pressures, climate impacts and stakeholder expectations. This workshop introduces participants to the principles of integrated risk management and explores how organisations can identify, assess, and respond to risks across the mining lifecycle. Drawing on practical examples from the global mining sector, participants will examine how risk management can support better decision-making, improve organisational resilience, and strengthen project outcomes.

Participants will:

- Understand the fundamentals of integrated risk management in mining
- Explore the different types of risk specific to mining projects
- Learn practical tools for risk identification and assessment
- Examine the relationship between risk, strategy and decision-making
- Discuss real-world mining case studies

Who should attend?

- Mining professionals
- Project managers
- Technical specialists
- Sustainability and ESG practitioners
- Government and regulatory representatives
- Investors and advisors

Certificate provided on completion

Delegates will be served with lunch and beverages

10:00 - 17:00
Ash Suite

WORKSHOP 2: SHARING YOUR MINING STORY

Format: Full-day interactive workshop (10am-5pm, 6 hours CPD)

Sarah Gordon, Founder and CEO, Satarla
Rose Clarke, Operations Director (UK), Satarla

Organiser
Satarla is a specialist consultancy and training provider focused on risk management, sustainability and the extractive industries.

Overview
Mining and exploration companies must communicate increasingly complex projects to a wide range of stakeholders, each with different priorities, concerns and levels of technical knowledge. A compelling project story must connect geology, finance, environmental performance, social value, risk and uncertainty, all while remaining credible and evidence - based. This workshop explores how organisations can communicate their work clearly, transparently and effectively, building trust with investors, communities, regulators and the wider public without falling into greenwashing. Participants will examine practical approaches to stakeholder engagement, communication strategy and evidence-led storytelling throughout the mining lifecycle.

Participants will:

- Understand how communication can build or erode stakeholder trust
- Identify priority stakeholders and their information needs
- Adapt messages for different audiences while maintaining consistency
- Connect technical, commercial, environmental and social information into a coherent story
- Recognise greenwashing risks
- Select the most appropriate communication channels and assets
- Explore opportunities for evidence-based and dynamic communication

Who should attend?

- Corporate and project communications teams
- External and public affairs professionals
- Investor relations teams
- Sustainability and ESG practitioners
- Community and stakeholder engagement specialists
- Exploration and project leaders
- Risk and governance professionals
- Technical experts with communication responsibilities

Certificate provided on completion

Delegates will be served with lunch and beverages

1 DAY 28 October (Wednesday)

08:30 – 09:15
Barbican Suite 1

Registration & Welcome coffee (sponsored by Bara Consulting)
Networking at the exhibition area

09:15 - 09:30

Keynotes

09:30 - 11:00
Barbican Suite 2

SESSION 1
Beyond Legislation - Can Europe Rebuild Its Mining Industry?

Europe has created a stronger policy framework for critical raw materials, but the gap between political ambition and industrial delivery remains wide. The Critical Raw Materials Act promised faster permitting and stronger domestic supply chains, yet many projects still struggle to advance. The central questions are no longer only about geology or legal frameworks, but about competitiveness, public legitimacy, financing and the ability to move projects from concept to production. How much can legislation really change? Where are the main bottlenecks now - permitting, energy costs, market conditions, public resistance, or lack of investor confidence? And what does “rebuilding an industry” mean in a European context where mining remains strategically necessary but politically contested? This opening session sets the intellectual and commercial frame for the Forum by examining whether Europe is entering a new phase of mining development or still operating mainly at the level of policy aspiration.

Moderator — **Kruthika Anastasia Bala**, Managing Director, Resources Now

09:30 — **Bernd Schäfer,** CEO, Managing Director, EIT RawMaterials

09:45 — Beyond Dissemination: Designing Science for Decisions in Europe's CRM Transition.
Maureen Gallagher, Global Ambassador, European Federation of Geologists

10:00 — Beyond Legislation - Can Europe Rebuild Its Mining Industry?
Åsa Edfelt, Chief of Staff, Boliden Mines

10:15 — The UK's approach to investing in critical minerals supply chains.
Oliver Richards, Head of Critical Minerals and Mining (International), UK Government DBIST

10:25 — Dalradian (speaker tbc)

10:40 — Panel discussion with presenters

Guest panellist: **James Watson**, Director General, European Metals

11:00 - 11:30
Barbican Suite 1

Mid-morning coffee break (sponsored by Bara Consulting)
Networking at the exhibition area

11:30 - 13:00
Barbican Suite 2

SESSION 2
Europe’s critical raw materials supply chain: What Strategic Status Is Really Worth

For a developer, the Critical Raw Materials Act's "strategic" label promises a great deal: expedited permitting, a single national contact point, priority access to the RESourceEU financing hub, UNFC classification for bankability, and the offtake certainty of public-interest status. The first wave tested that on 60 projects; a second wave of 161 applicants, due for designation around the time of this Forum, will roughly double the portfolio. This session asks the plain question facing anyone weighing that status: what is it worth? It looks at where designation has moved projects forward - plants now opening in Estonia, Sweden and France - and where the label has not been enough, as financing stays prospective, permitting still runs to years, and mine lead times collide with a 2030 deadline the European Court of Auditors already thinks the EU will miss. The frank questions: does strategic status change bankability, or mainly paperwork? What separates the projects that get built from those that stall? And where must the second wave concentrate to turn designations into operating capacity?

Moderator	**James Watson**, Director General, European Metals
11:30	From Discovery to Production: Why Mining Enterprises Struggle to Evolve as their Assets Mature. **Sam Houston**, CEO and Executive Team Advisor, Strategist Solutions
11:45	From Strategic Status to Commercial Reality: What Actually Changes When Europe Calls a Project Strategic? **Kruthika Anastasia Bala**, Managing Director, Resources Now
12:00	Sokli – More than a Mine: Building Europe's Future Critical Raw Materials Ecosystem. **Kasperi Karhapää**, Business Development Lead, Sokli
12:15	Iberian Belt West: Poised to be a significant contributor to the EU's bid for Responsible Mining. **Joaquín Merino**, CEO, Emerita Resources Corp
12:30	Valea Dobra magnesium - strategic mining and processing development in Romania MPI Magnesium (Speaker to be confirmed)
12:45	Mineral Information Mission and Critical Minerals Research at USGS. **Sean Xun**, Acting Chief, Global Minerals Analysis Section, USGS National Minerals Information Center
13:00 - 14:00 Rococo Restaurant	**Lunch** *Networking at the exhibition area*
14:00 - 15:00 Barbican Suite 2	**SESSION 3** **Ireland's Mining Renaissance: Policy, Regulation and Strategic Opportunity**

Ireland occupies a unique position within Europe's minerals landscape. As one of the continent's most established mining jurisdictions, it combines a long history of base metal production with a new generation of critical minerals exploration and development. At the same time, the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment's (DCEE) implementation of the Critical Raw Materials Act, the development of national exploration programmes and renewed industry investment are reshaping the country's approach to resource development. This session examines how Ireland is positioning itself within Europe's evolving raw materials strategy and asks whether the country can translate geological potential into a new generation of mining projects. The discussion will explore regulatory reforms, permitting frameworks, government policy, investment support mechanisms and the role of mining in national economic development, including the evolution of industry representation through bodies such as the Irish Minerals Industry Group (IMIG). It will also address the legacy of Ireland's historic mining districts, and how health, safety and environmental obligations at these older sites are being managed as the sector modernises. It will consider whether Ireland's experience, past and present, offers lessons for other European jurisdictions seeking to strengthen domestic mineral supply chains.

Moderator	To be confirmed
14:00	**Mairéad Fitzsimons**, Principal Geologist, Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment's (DCEE) (awaiting confirmation)

14:10 Ireland; a Case Study on developing a supply chain for the minerals industry.
Sean Finlay, Chair, Geoscience Ireland

14:20 Priming the Pump: How Geological survey Ireland is derisking mineral exploration.
Koen Verbruggen, Director, Geological Survey Ireland (GSI)

14:30 Beyond Membership: Supporting Ireland's Geoscience Professionals.
Emer Blackwell, Treasurer, Institute of Geologists of Ireland

14:45 Planning and Permitting a Mine — An Irish Perspective.
Hannah McGillycuddy, Senior Environmental Geologist, SLR Consulting

15:00 - 16:00
Barbican Suite 2

SESSION 4
Data, Discovery and Research: Building Ireland's Next Generation of Mineral Projects

Modern mineral discovery depends increasingly on the quality of geological data, scientific research and exploration technologies. Ireland has emerged as a leading centre for geoscience innovation through initiatives such as Geological Survey Ireland's National Exploration Programme and the internationally recognised research activities of iCRAG. This session explores how government agencies, researchers and industry are working together to improve geological understanding, reduce exploration risk and accelerate the discovery of new mineral resources. Topics include national geoscience datasets, critical raw materials research, deep targeting methodologies, artificial intelligence, geophysical technologies and the growing role of digital tools in exploration. The session asks whether Ireland's integrated approach to science, data and industry collaboration can help unlock the country's next generation of mining opportunities while supporting Europe's broader raw materials ambitions.

Moderator **Hannah McGillycuddy**, Senior Environmental Geologist, SLR Consulting

15:00 SLR Consulting (speaker tbc)

15:15 Unlocking Value Through Research in the Raw Materials Value Chain.
Sarah Gleeson, Professor, iCRAG and University College Dublin

15:30 "The Value of Tellus" - GSI's national airborne geophysics/geochemistry programme, full Irish coverage achieved in 2026.
Jim Hodgson, Senior Geologist, Geological Survey Ireland

15:45 "Priming the Pump for Exploration" — GSI's role de-risking early-stage Irish exploration investment.
Eoin McGrath, Principal Geologist, Geological Survey Ireland

16:00 Transforming Tellus Programme Data into Discovery.
Olivia Rhind, Senior Geologist, Business Development, ALS

16:00 - 16:30
Barbican Suite 2

Afternoon coffee break (sponsored by Bara Consulting)
Networking at the exhibition area

16:30 - 18:00
Barbican Suite 2

SESSION 5
Ireland's Advanced Mining Projects: From Discovery to Development

Ireland is home to a new generation of projects seeking to build upon the country's established mining heritage. From the expansion of existing operations and brownfield opportunities to new discoveries and project restarts, developers are seeking to demonstrate that Ireland can remain a significant contributor to Europe's future mineral supply. This session provides a strategic overview of the country's most important mining and exploration projects, examining their geological potential, development status, financing requirements and pathways to production. The session will explore the

	challenges facing project developers, including permitting, community engagement, financing and market competitiveness, while assessing the realistic prospects for a new cycle of mining investment in Ireland. The broader question is whether Ireland is entering a genuine period of mining revival or merely witnessing isolated project successes.
Moderator	To be confirmed
16:30	The Tynagh Project — Tailings Recycling and Hardrock Polymetallic Exploration Updates. **Aiden Lavelle**, General Manager, Northmin Corporation
16:45	Mineral Exploration in Ireland – A Renewable Industry: The Minco Experience **John Clifford**, Director - Exploration, Minco Exploration
17:00	Maureen Jones, Managing Director, Conroy Gold and Natural Resources (awaiting confirmation)
17:15	ERM (speaker to be confirmed)
17:30 - 18:00 Barbican Suite 2	**Fireside chat / Session 5** **Irish Mining Beyond Ireland: Exporting Expertise, Technology and Innovation** Ireland's contribution to the mining sector extends far beyond its domestic projects. Irish companies, consultants, technology providers and engineering specialists are active across Europe, Africa, Australia and the Americas. This discussion explores how Irish expertise in exploration, mine development, environmental management, geotechnics and mining services is being applied internationally. It examines the role of globally active Irish companies, asking how Ireland can further strengthen its reputation as an exporter of mining knowledge, innovation and professional services.
18:00 - 21:00 Terrace Lounge	**Networking drinks**

2 DAY 29 October (Thursday)

08:30 - 09:00
Barbican Suite 1

Welcome coffee(sponsored by Bara Consulting)
Networking at the exhibition area

09:00 – 10:30

SESSION 6
Financing Europe's Next Generation of Mining Projects

Project finance remains one of the decisive tests of whether Europe's raw materials strategy can move beyond ambition. This session explores how mining and processing projects are being funded, what types of capital are available, and why many European assets still struggle to attract investment despite strong policy support. Key topics include equity financing, private capital, strategic investors, debt, public support instruments, offtake-backed funding and blended finance models. The session examines what investors are evaluating when they assess European projects: permitting uncertainty, cost inflation, timeline risk, commodity price exposure, power costs, technical complexity and political durability. Open questions include whether Europe's policy frameworks are bankable enough to reduce risk, whether strategic project designation can materially improve financing conditions, and what combination of capital is most likely to support project development in the current market. The broader issue is whether Europe can create not only political momentum, but also credible investment conditions for a new generation of mining assets.

Moderator — **Han Ilhan**, Managing Director, Catalis Strategies

09:00
Challenges and opportunities of financing mineral exploration projects in Europe.
Vaughan Williams, Director & Principal Geologist, Aurum Exploration (speaker to be confirmed)

09:15
Public Finance Can Help Scale Responsible Critical Mineral Supply
David Riposo, Director, World Resources Institute

09:30
Bridging the Critical Minerals Finance Gap: Insights from the UK.
Chenyan Lyu, Innovation Research Fellow, University of Exeter

09:45
Protection of foreign investments in the mining sector
Scott Macpherson, Counsel, Hogan Lovells Cadwalader

10:00
Panel

Ayuna Nechaeva, Head of Europe, Primary Markets, London Stock Exchange
Claudia Lakov, Vice President, Resources and Recycling, KfW IPEX-Bank
Kruthika Anastasia Bala, Managing Director, Resources Now
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (awaiting confirmation)
Irish Minerals Fund (awaiting confirmation)
Stefan Müller, CEO, DGWA (awaiting confirmation)

10:30 - 11:00
Barbican Suite 1

Mid-morning coffee break (sponsored by Bara Consulting)
Networking at the exhibition area

11:00 - 11:45
Barbican Suite 2

SESSION 7
Europe's Energy Metals Opportunity: Mining, Processing, and Competitive Supply

Europe's €300 billion battery gigafactory investment creates unlimited demand for lithium, cobalt, nickel, and graphite. Yet the continent controls less than 8% of the refining capacity needed to supply it. This session explores how European mining and processing developers can capture the mid-stream opportunity: accelerating projects through permitting, building cost-competitive refining capacity, and securing long-term offtake agreements with gigafactory planners. The focus: what successful European energy metals developers are doing now to win market position by 2030.

Moderator	**Martina Bassan**, Corporate Affairs Director, European Metals
11:00	Securing European lithium: assessing future demand, primary supply, trade and recycling **André Månberger**, Associate Professor, Lund University
11:15	Rethinking Graphite: A New Path to European Supply Security. **Laura Malkamäki**, Founder & COO, Hycamite TCD Technologies
11:30	Innovation as a key to unlock new sources of Lithium: the case of the Beauvoir deposit in France. **Antoine Gouze**, Director Geology, Mine and Metallurgy, Imerys
11:45 - 13:00 Barbican Suite 2	**SESSION 8** **Social Licence as Industrial Policy: Why Legitimacy Is the Real Constraint** Europe does not only face a permitting challenge. It faces a legitimacy challenge. This session tackles the political and social dimension of mining head-on, asking why domestic projects continue to encounter resistance even when policymakers agree that critical raw materials are essential for climate, industry and defence. The discussion explores trust, local participation, consultation quality, land use conflicts, environmental credibility, benefits sharing and the limits of top-down policy. It also examines why some projects become symbolic political flashpoints and what developers can do differently from the earliest stages of engagement. This session stands out from a standard ESG panel by framing social licence as a core industrial variable rather than an optional communications issue. The objective is to show that no permitting deadline or strategic target will materially shift outcomes unless mining regains public legitimacy on the ground.
Moderator	To be confirmed
11:45	Europe's Green Transition at Risk: How ESG Lite Capital and Offshore Impacts Are Reshaping the CRM Landscape. **Karen Dingley,** Regional Director (ESG), Hatch
12:00	Mining regulation, permitting and investment conditions and social licence to operate. **Michelle Bennett**, General Manager, Boliden Tara Mines
12:15	What effect is the EU Taxonomy "Do No Significant Harm" process having on mine permitting and environmental impact assessment in the European union? **Freddy Brookes**, Principal Environmental Scientist, Hatch
12:30	ERM (speaker to be confirmed)
12:45	**Sarah Gordon**, Founder and CEO, Satarla
13:00 - 14:00 Rococo Restaurant	**Lunch** *Networking at the exhibition area*
14:00 - 15:30 Barbican Suite 2	**SESSION 9** **Designing Projects Europe Can Actually Permit: Innovation, Low-Impact Mining and Project Readiness** In Europe, project design is increasingly tied to political acceptability, environmental credibility and permitting success. This session focuses on the kinds of mine design, engineering choices and operational strategies that may improve the chances of project

	approval and long-term viability. Topics include underground mining methods, digital technologies, water stewardship, tailings design, progressive rehabilitation, biodiversity considerations, closure planning and "low-impact" approaches to mine development. The central issue is whether better-designed projects can reduce visible conflict, improve the quality of permitting applications and strengthen the overall case for mining in high-standard jurisdictions. At the same time, the session questions the limits of technical solutions: how far can innovation address opposition, and where do deeper issues of trust and legitimacy remain decisive? The discussion links engineering, ESG, feasibility and project readiness, highlighting the idea that in Europe the projects most likely to succeed may be those designed from the outset for a higher threshold of environmental and social performance.
Moderator	**Chris Stockey,** Climate Change and Nature Lead, Satarla
14:00	Dalradian (speaker to be confirmed)
14:15	Mine Design for Climate Change **Andrew Bamber**, Bara Consulting (UK)
14:30	Operationalising Mine Decarbonisation **Ottomar Brussee**, Program Manager Climate Impact, Boliden
14:45	What Ever Happened to Geology? Part Two! **Allan Armitage**, Technical Manager, SGS Geological Services
15:00	From Offshore Wind to Critical Minerals: Practical Engineering Solutions for the Energy Transition **Laurie Thornton**, Co-Founder and Director, MintMech Specialist Engineers
15:15	Comparison of Erosive Wear on Composite and Metallic Propellers in Slurry. **Marc Tusenko**, R&D Engineer, PTM
15:30 - 16:00 Barbican Suite 1	**Afternoon coffee break (sponsored by Bara Consulting)** *Networking at the exhibition area*
16:00 - 17:00 Barbican Suite 2	**SESSION 10** **Mine to Market 4.0: The AI-Driven Supply Chain** The final session examines how AI, Big Data, and Remote Sensing are revolutionizing both exploration and operations across the continent. By digitizing the entire value chain-from initial geological surveys to the final concentrate-companies can de-risk projects for investors and improve operational efficiency. The session will showcase how Irish and European tech firms are leading the way in "Sub-Surface Intelligence," providing the data needed to secure the next generation of mining finance.
Moderator	To be confirmed
16:00	AI in Mining: Opportunities and Challenges. **Fernando Acosta**, Director of Economics and Environment, International Copper Study Group
16:10	Anchoring AI in Mining Operations. **Stefan Ebert**, CEO & Co-Founder, Digital Mine
16:25	Diorama – digital transformation training for raw materials. **Manuel Regueiro y González-Barros**, Researcher, CSIC
16:40	Q&As

17:00 - 17:30
Barbican Suite 2

CLOSING SESSION

MINEX Europe 2026 takeaways

Forum moderators will provide a high-level overview of their respective sessions, distilling the key discussion points, participant suggestions, and core feedback.

18:30 - 22:30

Gala Dinner (by invitation)

3 DAY 30 October (Friday)

07:45 - 16:30

VISIT TO BOLIDEN TARA

Boliden Tara Mines
Knockumber
Navan C15 NH63
Co. Meath

Tara in Ireland is one of Europe's largest zinc mines located just north of Dublin. Since mining began in 1977, more than 85 million tonnes of ore have been extracted. Boliden acquired the mine in 2004. In recent years, Tara has focused on improving its cost position through productivity enhancing activities and cost savings measures. In Tara, both zinc and lead concentrates are produced mainly for the European market.

Visitor Information

For everyone participating in the underground visit, please provide **PPE/clothing size and shoe size in advance** so that the appropriate equipment can be prepared

GROUP 1

07:45 – Departure from Knightsbrook Hotel

08:30 – Arrival at Tara Mines & Gear Up
Arrival onsite, safety preparation and fitting of PPE ahead of the underground visit.

09:00 – Underground Mine Visit
Guided underground tour of Tara Mines and an introduction to the mining operations.

12:30 – Lunch
Lunch in the onsite canteen.

13:30 – Mill Tour
Guided tour of the processing mill, following the journey of the ore from the mine through to zinc and lead concentrate production.

15:00 – End of Visit and transfer to Dublin

GROUP 2

08:45 – Departure from Knightsbrook Hotel

09:30 – Arrival at Tara Mines
Gear up with PPE for Mill visit

10:00 – Mill Tour
Guided tour of the processing mill, following the journey of the ore from the mine through to zinc and lead concentrate production.

12:00 – Lunch
Lunch in the onsite canteen.

13:00 – Underground Mine Visit
Guided underground tour of Tara Mines.

16:30 – End of Visit and transfer to Dublin