

EIT RawMaterials Summit 2021 will feature raw materials innovators enabling a carbon-neutral future

Commissioners Gabriel & Breton, and VP Šefčovič to participate as recognition grows of importance of raw materials for EU green transition

Berlin, 19 May 2021 – Driven by rising demand across low-carbon energy technologies and electric vehicles, the world is currently facing a doubling of overall mineral requirements for clean energy by 2050. To prevent supply shortages with massive impact not only on the transition towards the EU Green Deal but also on the EU economy, it is paramount to educate, innovate and re-think our approach to raw materials. EIT RawMaterials is taking the global lead on this.

Today, EIT RawMaterials has released its line-up of speakers at the annual RawMaterials Summit – a major European event in the raw materials sector. The 2021 event takes place online on 17 June, with the participation of industry leaders, entrepreneurs, policymakers and academics from across the raw materials value chain.

Top EU figures will speak at the RawMaterials Summit including Mariya Gabriel, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, Thierry Breton, Commissioner for Internal Market, and Maroš Šefčovič, Vice President for Interinstitutional Relations and Foresight. The presence of EU stakeholders highlights the pressing need for sustainable access to resources as fundamental for the industry and the twin transition of the EU economy. Leading experts and CEOs from Eramet, LKAB, Umicore, Atlantic Copper, Veolia will feature innovation and know-how for the transition to a green and circular economy in Europe. The summit will also showcase most promising start-ups behind the cutting-edge technology in the sector.

The EU's recent update to its industrial strategy confirmed that raw materials remain a key strategic area for the Commission. Industrial alliances are the best tool to accelerate activities and attract private investors to strategic projects with high innovation potential. The RawMaterials Summit 2020 featured the launch of the European Raw Materials Alliance (ERMA), mandated by the European Commission to EIT RawMaterials. This year, the participants will hear how ERMA is working towards securing raw materials supply for a more resilient and greener Europe.

Bernd Schäfer, CEO and Managing Director of EIT RawMaterials, said: "This year's RawMaterials Summit promises to be an exciting event. We'll be focusing on the key topics of innovation, education, the circular economy and the European Raw Materials Alliance (ERMA), and how these tools will help us to make the EU Green Deal a reality. We'll be joined by the top people in the field – and I for one am really looking forward to hearing what they have to say."

About EIT RawMaterials

EIT RawMaterials is developing raw materials into a major strength for Europe. Minerals, metals and advanced materials are key enablers to achieve the objectives of the European Green Deal. Our ambition is to secure a sustainable raw materials supply by driving innovation, education and entrepreneurship along the value chain. We create a collaborative environment for breakthrough innovations by connecting business with academia, research and investment. We are strengthening Europe's industrial competitiveness, innovation capacity and human capital basis. Our company is committed to supporting Europe's transition to a circular, green and digital economy whilst strengthening its global competitiveness. On this foundation, EIT RawMaterials has been mandated by the European Commission to lead and manage the [European Raw Materials Alliance \(ERMA\)](#).

EIT RawMaterials is an Innovation Community within the [European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#), which drives innovation across Europe to find solutions to pressing global challenges.