

Towards a National Minerals Strategy

Mineral Resources in Greece: A Driving Force for Economic Development

Athanasios Kefalas President, Greek Mining Enterprises Association

6th International Forum

Mineral Resources in Greece: A Driving Force for Economic Development The Greek land houses a wide portfolio of minerals with countless uses in industry and daily life





Lignite 2nd in the EU, 5th worldwide



Laterite One of the largest producers in Europe



Marble Global leader in quality, acquiring market share



Magnesite Largest exporter in Europe



Bauxite Key for the national aluminum industry



Bentonite 1st in Europe, 2nd worldwide



Perlite 1st worldwide



Aggregates Key for the cement industry and construction



Gypsum / Pozzolan Key for the cement industry

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A plethora of minerals in several locations – metallic and lignite mines as well as industrial minerals (1/2)





METALLIC AND LIGNITE MINES (2010)

INDUSTRIAL MINERAL QUARRIES (2010)



LEGEND: • Feldspar // • Huntite // • Manganese ores // • Mixed Sulfides // • Magnesite // • Ferrous Nickel Ores // • Bauxite // • Lignite

LEGEND: O CaCO3 // O Pumice // O Attapulgite // O Quartz // O Dolomite - Calcite // O Caoline // O Possolane // O Perlite // O Betonite // O Glays

Mineral Resources in Greece:

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A plethora of minerals in several locations – marble and aggregates (2/2)

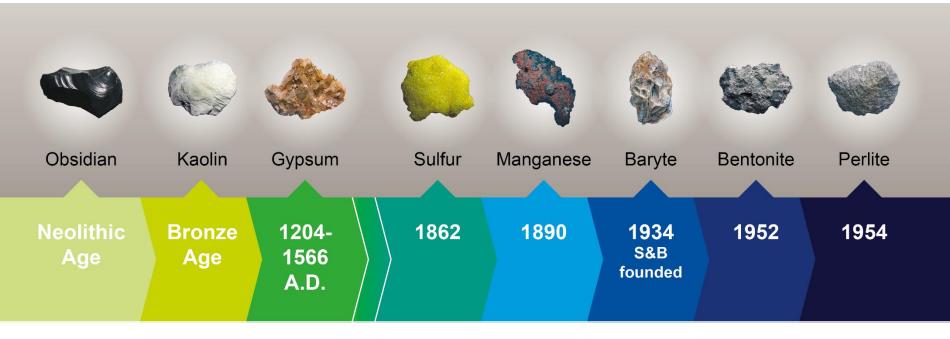




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Mining and minerals are interlinked with the history of mankind and an inherently sustainable activity





Each era is effectively named after different extracted minerals and metals; the

same materials were used for flagship achievements of human civilization

- Neolithic age until today: Milos mining history and related economic activity through the centuries
- Classical Antiquity: Lavrio silver mines
- Alexander the Great and his father Phillipos: Paggaion gold mines

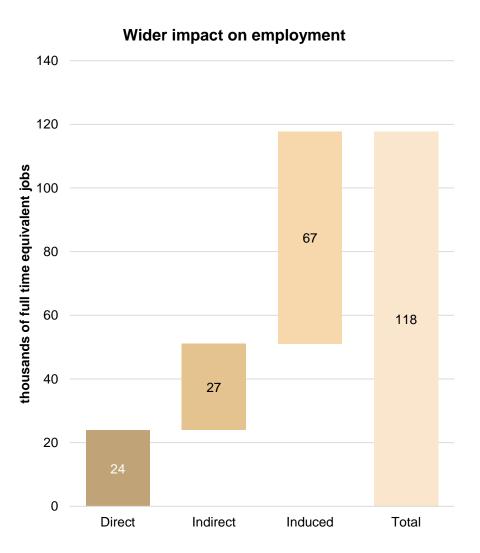


Mineral resource centered activity has traditionally been a key driver of economic development, employment (in urban centers but mainly in the periphery), trade, and ultimately competitive advantage for the Greek economy



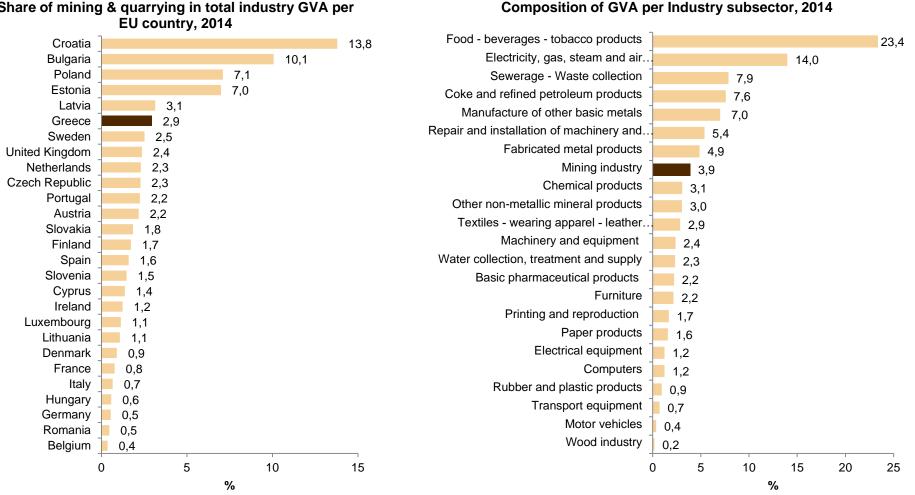
The Greek mining industry at-a-glance:

- Accounts for 3.4% of the Greek GDP
- Comprises of more than 25 large mining companies that are active in Greece and abroad
- Extracts over **30 different minerals**, 10 of which in quantities larger than 300,000 tons per year
- Generated a total value of €2.3 billion in
 2014, roughly 50% of which was exported
- Constitutes almost 5% of total Greek exports
- Employs directly roughly 20,000 individuals and indirectly 80,000 individuals



The mining industry is a large contributor to the national economy both compared to other EU countries and other industries domestically

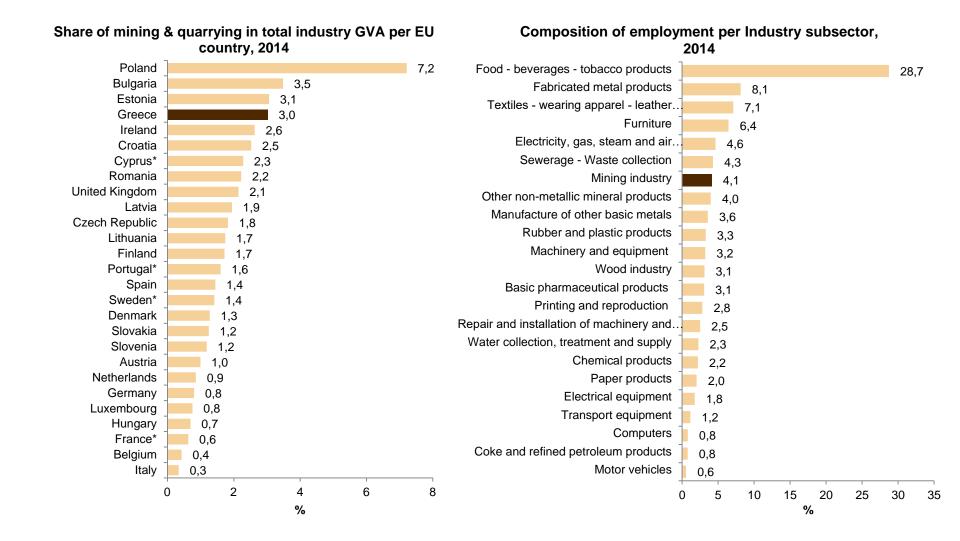




Share of mining & guarrying in total industry GVA per

C* International Forum Mineral Resources in Greece: The mining industry is a top employer – especially in the Greek periphery: 4% of the Greek workforce, exceeded by only three countries in the EU



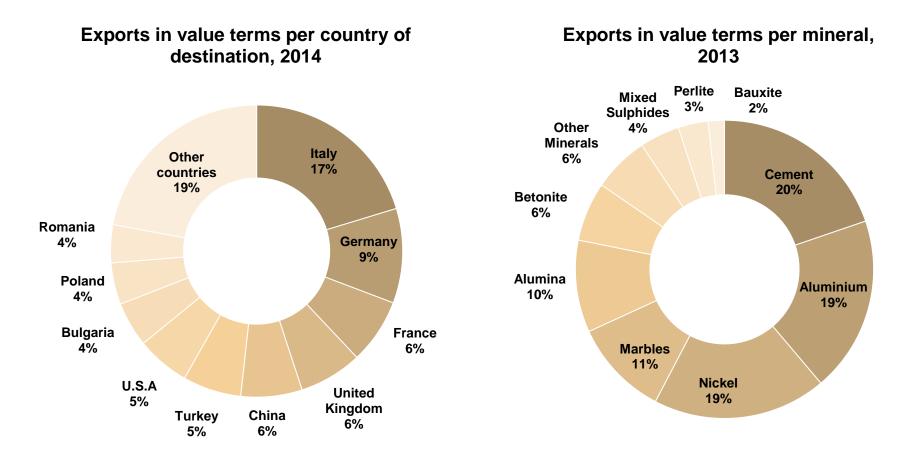


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Roughly half of total sales are abroad – mainly in Europe; 75% of total sales in the products that are exported to a diversified group of countries



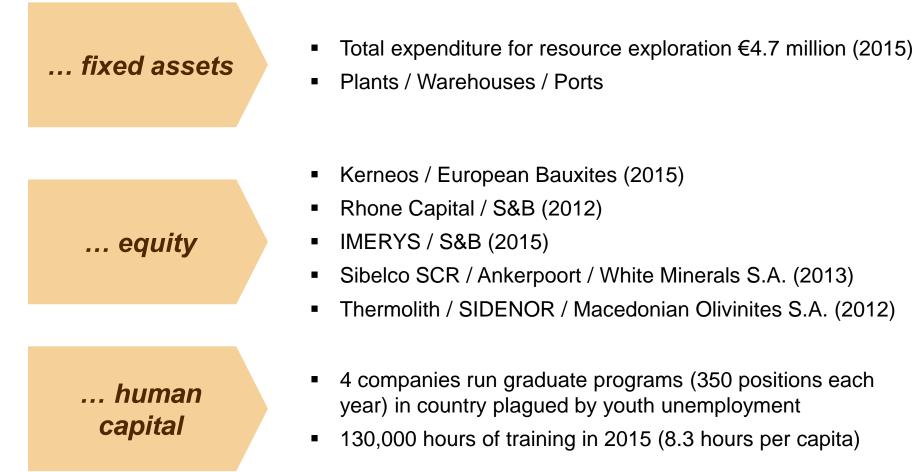


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Mining companies have both invested and been a magnet for investment





GMEA members are planning €1.7 billion worth of investments by 2019

Mining has weathered effectively the economic crisis and could be a key component of the way forward





Promising Outlook

- World population projected to increase to 9.7 billion by 2050, according to the UN
- Lignite production is projection to increase until 2020
- Positive outlook for metals (especially aluminum)
- Substantial increase in marble and industrial mineral sales accelerated by the recovery of the Greek economy in 2017

The industry is well-positioned to play a vital role in the Greek recovery



The provisions of a national minerals policy must reflect the **national strategy for mineral resources** built around the following objectives:

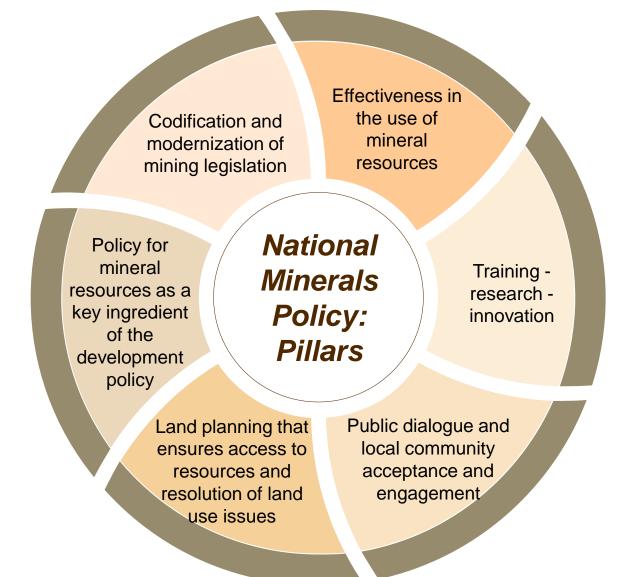
- Ensure optimal exploitation of resources
- Actively promote innovation
- Safeguard sustainable development
- Impose rigorous healthy, safety, quality, and environment standards
- Consider reasonable offsets for the local society
- Foster enterprise
- Encourage R&D in new minerals and/or applications
- Render the industry competitive globally
- Promote the circular economy



Implementation of such a policy would spur innovation, improve productivity, and deliver substantial benefits to the Greek economy

The National Minerals Policy currently in place ticks many of these boxes in line with EU policies and regulations...





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- Time consuming and unnecessary complex licensing process for exploitation of mineral resources
- Bureaucracy and multiple often conflicting laws for the same issues or select aspects of the same issues
- Inability of the legal system to distinguish justified versus unjustified appeals that create a huge disincentive for new investments
- Antiquated quarry code that does not account for new trends and discoveries in research and exploitation of minerals
- Lack of comprehensive urban planning that does not reflect the potential of mineral resources
- Absence due to the ineffectiveness of IGMR (IFME) of thorough knowledge and understanding of the potential of mineral resources and their degree of exploitation
- Social resistance towards new mining projects for fear of subpar environmental practices that is perpetuated by insufficient audit mechanisms
- Last but not least, unstable tax and labor law that adversely impact competitiveness and investment in all industries - not exclusive to mining

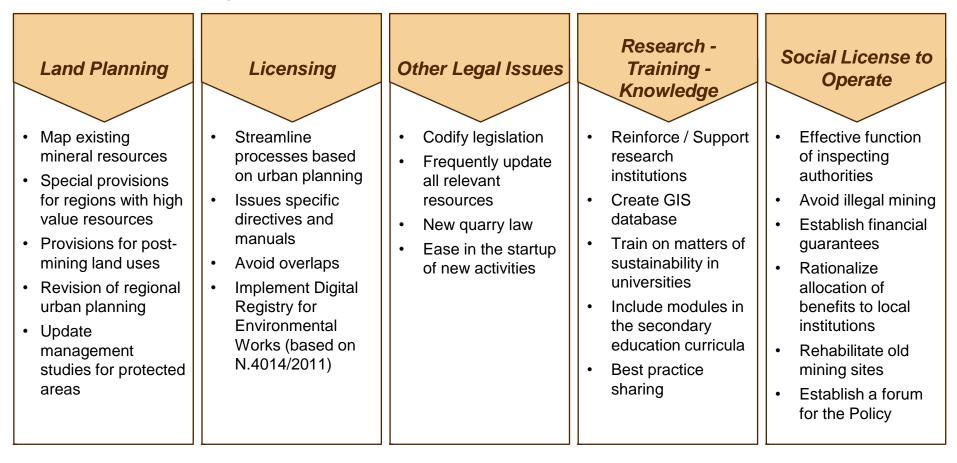


The National Minerals Policy should pave the way for sustainable management of mineral resources in Greece



A comprehensive and coherent National Minerals Policy should pave the way for

sustainable management of mineral resources in Greece; the key elements of such a policy would be the following:



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However, without systematic implementation and elimination of some weaknesses of the Greek Administration none of the aims will be accomplished

To that end, several critical success factors have been identified – some of which address weaknesses of the Greek Administration:

- Access to land / port and other logistics infrastructure
- Stable and equitable tax environment
- Fast and coherent legal decisions
- Access to innovation and research funding
- Upgrade and support of all University departments and faculties of geosciences and vocational education primarily but also information technology

The implementation of the National Minerals Policy would position both the industry and the Greek economy to reap significant benefits

- Ensure continuity of supply of raw materials
- Shield from raw material price volatility
- Ensure compliance with EU policies and regulations
- Create new job positions besides mining in logistics, exploration, research etc.
- Set the foundation for attracting investment
- Eliminate antagonistic relationships with other prominent local industries (eg: tourism) and promote joint value creation
- Promote better utilization of infrastructure (especially transportation)

The mining industry could emerge as the national champion for the broader benefit of the Greek economy and the Greek people

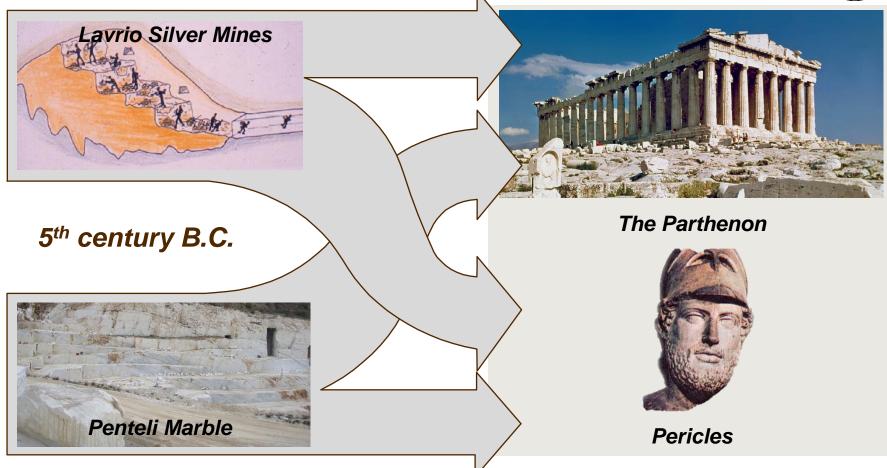
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To reach the national champion status we do not need to re-invent the pick, we must be brave towards the implementation of the policy (1/2)





Largely thanks to mining the 5th century B.C. was the "Athenian Golden Age", an age of prosperity, establishment of democracy, and significant progress in sciences, philosophy, arts and culture

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National Policy for the Exploitation of Mineral Resources

With world class reserves, substantial logistics advantage, extroversion, and the implementation of the National Minerals Policy... just imagine what we can do now.....

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