



## DIM-ESEE 2025 conference

### Development and Innovations in Mineral resourcing in Eastern and South Eastern Europe

**Location:** [Inter University Center, Don Franja Bulića 4 HR-20000 Dubrovnik, Croatia](#)



**Date:** 15 – 17 October 2025

**Organised by:** University of Zagreb, Faculty of Mining, Geology and Petroleum Engineering; University of Miskolc; University of Liege; Montanuniversität Leoben; National Technical University of Athens; Slovenian National Building and Civil Engineering Institute; Technical University of Kosice; Dnipro University of Technology; Wroclaw University of Science and Technology; EIT RawMaterials HUB Adria

#### Registration link (physical event)

<https://dim-esee.eu/registration-and-fees/>

#### Main aim

The DIM ESEE Conference is designed to bring together professionals from the raw materials sector, academia, and industry across Europe and beyond, with a special focus on the Eastern and Southeastern Europe (ESEE) region. The event fosters innovation, capacity building, and collaboration across the value chain of mineral resources. We aim to strengthen educational, scientific, and industrial ties and promote sustainable development in mineral resourcing. This year's conference will cover key thematic areas in Raw materials prospection & discoveries; Mining methods; Geometallurgy & sustainable mineral extraction; Recycling & waste management and Raw materials education.

The three-day conference will offer expert presentations, panel discussions, poster sessions, and social events. It will serve as a platform for showcasing innovations, exchanging ideas, and networking with professionals across the raw materials ecosystem.

In the light of the recently adopted EU Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA), the raw materials sector is entering a new phase of strategic importance and investment. Now more than ever, events like DIM ESEE play a critical role in supporting innovation, sustainability, and collaboration across the sector.

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## Who?

**Target groups:** Raw Materials companies, academicians, professionals and students enrolled at related undergraduate, graduate and PhD studies in mining, geo-sciences and geotechnology, extractive waste management, materials science, metallurgy, recycling, economy, social sciences

## DIM-ESEE Legacy

Since 2016, the DIM ESEE workshops in Dubrovnik have grown into a well-recognized educational platform in the raw materials sector, bringing together over 500 participants from 20 European countries. Initially launched as a lifelong learning project, DIM ESEE aimed to transfer international knowledge and strengthen innovation capacities in the mineral exploration, extraction, processing, recycling, and waste management. From 2016 to 2024, nine editions of the Dubrovnik International ESEE Mining School were held:

- ✓ 2016: Innovative approaches to blasting
- ✓ 2017: Zero waste management
- ✓ 2018: Deep intelligent mining
- ✓ 2019: Small mining sites: Innovation in mining
- ✓ 2020: Small mining sites: Innovation in exploitation and processing
- ✓ 2021: Innovation in exploration
- ✓ 2022: Innovation in process oriented orebody characterization
- ✓ 2023: Innovation in extraction
- ✓ 2024: Innovation in ore processing

Over 50 companies participated at academia-industry innovative workshops, strengthening industry collaboration and public understanding of sustainability and circular economy in mineral resourcing.

Starting with 2025, DIM ESEE evolves into a conference format, aiming to develop as a platform for industry-academia discussions in the ESEE region, greater visibility and international influence. The conference will feature high-level lectures, panel discussions, networking opportunities to ensure long-term success and impact in the raw materials community.

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**DIM-ESEE 2025 conference programme (CET)**

<b>WEDNESDAY 15.10.2025</b>	
<b>DAY 1 Raw Materials prospection and discoveries</b>	
<i>Morning networking session</i>	
10:00 – 12:00	<i>Dubrovnik geo-heritage excursion</i> <i>prof. Ana Maričić, University of Zagreb - Faculty of Mining, Geology and Petroleum Engineering</i>
12:00 – 14:00	<i>Registration</i>
<i>Afternoon session</i>	
14:00 – 14:30	<i>IUC welcoming reception (networking event)</i> <i>The history and activities of IUC (IUC representative)</i>
14:30 – 15:00	<i>Opening ceremony</i>  <i>Welcoming speech</i>  <i>Assoc. Prof. Vladislav Brkić, dean of the Faculty of Mining, Geology and Petroleum Engineering, University of Zagreb</i>  <i>Prof. Roman Dychkovskyi, Professor at the Department of Mining Engineering and Education at the Dnipro University Technology</i>  <i>Doc. dr. Aleš Žnidarič, director of the Slovenian national building and civil engineering institute (on-line)</i>  <i>DIM ESEE legacy: Assoc. Prof. Vječislav Bohanek, vice-dean for business at the Faculty of Mining, Geology and Petroleum Engineering, University of Zagreb</i>
15:00 – 16:00	<i>Keynote lectures: EU mineral policies</i>  <i>15:00 – 15:30 EU Raw Materials Initiative: DG Grow TBC</i>  <i>15:30 – 16:00 UNFC resource classification under the Critical Raw Materials Act: Slavko Šolar, Geological survey of Slovenia</i>
16:00 – 17:30	<i>Critical raw materials act - National exploration programmes</i>

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	<p>16:00 – 16:20 Slovenian national exploration programme of critical raw materials and their carriers: <i>Barbara Čeplak, Geological survey of Slovenia</i></p> <p>16:20 – 16:40 Critical raw materials in Croatia: geological context and identified prospects: <i>Erli Kovačević Galović, Croatian geological survey</i></p> <p>16:40 – 17:00 Hungarian national exploration programme: <i>Ferenc Madai, UNIMISKOLC</i></p> <p><b>17:00 – 17:30 National exploration programmes panel discussion - opportunities and obstacles: moderator <i>Sibila Borojević Šoštarić</i></b></p>
17:30-18:00	<b><i>Coffee break</i></b>
18:00 –20:00	<p><b><i>Raw Materials prospection and discoveries</i></b></p> <p>18:00 – 18:20 Can Albania position itself as a strategic project partner under the EU Critical Raw Materials Act? <i>Perparim Alikaj, Albanian regional innovation center</i></p> <p>18:20 – 18:40 High grade, polymetallic (Ag-Sb) mineralization of the Srebrenica magmatic complex, Bosnia and Herzegovina: critical commodities prospect for critical times: <i>Aleksandar Mišković, Terra Balcanica</i></p> <p>18:40 – 19:00 Jadar Li-B non-EU strategic project: <i>Chad Blewitt, Rio Tinto</i></p> <p>19:00 – 19:20 Towards sustainable deep mineral exploration: insights from the MINOTAUR Project: <i>Magdalena Worsa-Kozak, Wroclaw University of Technology</i></p> <p>19:20 – 19:40 Advancing Europe's Critical Raw Materials Supply: Results of the Horizon Europe AGEMERA Project: <i>Josipa Kapuralić, UNIZG-RGNF</i></p> <p><b>19:40 – 20:00 Raw materials prospection and discoveries panel discussion: moderator <i>Sibila Borojević Šoštarić</i></b></p>
20:00 -	<p><b><i>Networking dinner, <a href="#">Inter University Center, Don Franja Bulića 4 HR-20000 Dubrovnik, Croatia</a></i></b></p>

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THURSDAY 16.10.2025

**DAY 2 Mining methods & Materials recycling**

*Morning session*

<p>9:00 – 11:00</p> <p>Supported by</p>  <p>Co-funded by the European Union</p>	<p><i>NRE Electra closing conference</i></p> <p>9:00 – 9:10 Introduction to the NRE Electra project: <i>Sibila Borojević Šoštarić, UNIZG-RGNF</i></p> <p>9:10 – 9:30 NRE fleet – introduction and basic properties: <i>Luka Petro, DOK-ING MINING</i></p> <p>9:30 – 9:50 Review of the mining methods for NRE-suitable deposits: <i>Vječislav Bohanek, UNIZG-RGNF</i></p> <p>9:50 – 10:10 Geological and economic evaluation of ore deposits suitable for Narrow Reef mining Equipment: <i>Ema Vokić, UNIZG-RGNF</i></p> <p>9:10 – 10:30 Underground trial testing of NRE Support Rig: <i>Paulo Pleše, DOK-ING Ltd</i></p> <p>10:30 – 10:50 LCA of electric, remote control and automatic narrow reef mining equipment: <i>Davor Kvočka, ZAG</i></p> <p>10:50 – 11:00 Closing remarks: <i>Sibila Borojević Šoštarić, UNIZG-RGNF; Luka Petro, DOK-ING Mining</i></p>
<p>11:00-11:30</p>	<p><i>Coffee break</i></p>
<p>11:30 – 12:30</p>	<p><i>Mining methods</i></p> <p>11:30 – 11:50 Analysis of drilling parameters for construction pit excavation: <i>Siniša Stanković, UNIZG-RGNF</i></p> <p>11:50 – 12:10 Blast vibration optimization at a limestone quarry by using E*STAR electronic detonators and advanced modelling methods: <i>Enes Kubat, Austin Detonator</i></p> <p>12:10 – 12:30 Waste organic materials in emulsion explosives-properties and possibilities: <i>Ivana Dobrilović, UNIZG-RGNF</i></p>
<p>12:30- 13:30</p>	<p><i>Companies' presentation</i></p> <p>12:30 – 12:45 Austin Powder: <i>Reanato Pisk</i></p> <p>12:45 – 13:00 Geobrugg: <i>Marko Boričević</i></p> <p>13:00 – 13:15 Terra Balcanica: <i>Aleksandar Mišković</i></p> <p>13:15 – 13:30 Dundee Precious Metals: <i>Paul Smallbone</i></p>

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13:30 – 14:30	<b>Lunch break</b>
<i>Afternoon session</i>	
14:30-17:00	<b>Materials recycling and waste management</b>  14:30 – 15:00 European recycling challenges and opportunities: <i>Davor Kvočka, ZAG</i> 15:00 – 15:20 Enhancing thermoelectric response in cement composites by introducing industrial by-products: <i>Mateja Štefančič, ZAG</i> 15:20 – 15:40 Laboratory Investigation of cement kiln dust (CKD) for stabilization of clay soil from Cegléd, Hungary: <i>Sirine Trabelsi, UNI-MISKOLC</i> 16:00 – 16:20 Hydration and carbonation behaviour of selected recycled materials from Slovenia: <i>Vesna Zalar Serjun, ZAG</i> 16:20 – 16:40 Development of porous foam glass from End-of-Life PV panels using secondary raw materials: <i>Ildikó Fóris, UNI-MISKOLC</i> 16:40 – 17:00 Circular economy in mining (Andraž quarry): <i>Lana Šteko, UNIZG-RGNF</i>
17:00-17:30	<b>Coffee break</b>
18:00 – 18:30	<b>Materials recycling and waste management</b>  17:30 – 17:50 Evaluation of sludge from the Sitarjevec mine (Slovenia) as a potential ochre pigment for concrete floor tiles: <i>Mateja Golež, ZAG</i> 17:50 – 18:10 Towards carbon neutral concrete production: Mechanical activation and alkaline content for concrete construction and demolition waste based geopolymers binder: <i>Cornelius Ngunjiri Ngadu, UNI-MISKOLC</i> 18:10 – 18:30 Detailed assessment of inorganic fouling content and heterogeneity of activated carbon in CIP/CIL circuits to optimize regeneration strategies and improve gold recovery: <i>Benedict Lazar, ULIEGE</i>
<b>End of 2<sup>nd</sup> day</b>	

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FRIDAY 17.10.2025

DAY 3 Raw materials education

*Morning session*

9:00- 11:30



*ADRIA education day*

9:00 – 9:10 Introduction to the ADRIA education day: *Sibila Borojević Šoštaric*, UNIZG-RGNF

9:10 – 9:30 EIT labelled innovative mineral resource exploration joint master programme – TIMREX: *Ana Marićić*, UNIZG-RGNF

9:30 – 9:50 Developing practical competencies in Social License to Operate - The PRO-SLO PhD School case study: Vareš, Bosnia and Herzegovina: *Marta Mileusnić*, UNIZG-RGNF

9:50 – 10:10 EPICENTRE LCA summer school: *Davor Kvočka*, ZAG

10:10 – 10:30 MINERS educational project in mine safety and mine rescue: *Dalibor Kuhinek*, UNIZG-RGNF

10:30 – 10:50 Training needs of copper sector employees in the context of digital and environmental transformation: results of the SkiComCu project: *Malwina Kobylańska*, KGHM Cuprum

10:50 – 11:10 Integrative field learning in the raw materials sector: the ADRIA fieldtrip component of the EMerald MSc in georesources engineering: *Tomislav Brenko*, UNIZG-RGNF

11:10 – 11:30 Raw materials education - open discussion: *moderator Sibila Borojević Šoštaric*

11:30-12:00

*Coffee break*

12.00 – 14.00

*Poster session and evaluation*

14.00 – 14.30

*The best poster award*

*Closing remarks*

14:30-15:30

*Farewell lunch*

End of the programme

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