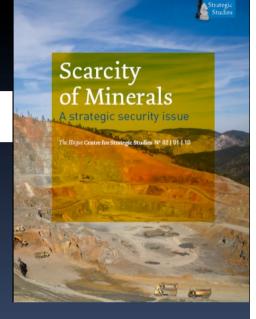
## *The Hague* Centre for Strategic Studies



### MINERAL SCARCITY A STRATEGIC SECURITY ISSUE !

Platform Mineral Scarcity http://www.materialscarcity.nl/default.aspx

Mineral Scarcity report http://www.georisq.nl/HCSS\_Scarcity%20of%20Minerals.pdf www.hcss.nl info@hcss.nl

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#### Global Trends 2025: A Transformed World (NIC 2008) Global Governance 2025: At A Critical Juncture (NIC 2010)

#### Certain

- VS less dominant
- Rise BRICS etc
- Emerging informal Groupings (G-20)
- Powershift towards nonstate actors
- Population growth (+1.2. billion 2025)
- Youth bulges become dangerous

#### Uncertain

- Collaboration world community
- Development regional hegomones and regional stability
- Speed of transito toward sustainable energy
- Speed/Impact climate change

## Systemic changes:

Emerging non-Western countries can lead to:

- Instability, because multi polarity not stable per definition
- Declining 'shaping power' of the West, weaker legal framework and effectiveness of institutions.
- More *black holes* in (regions of) *failed states*
- Growing instability as consequence of struggle over minerals, energy, effects climate change.
- Soft power of China: autocratic, resource rich countries and against resource poor democracies

Question: how will emerging powers handle geopolitical aspects of scarce resources, how will the West react and what is relation between scarcity and local/regional stability

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#### SCARCITY: AGE OLD FEAR & FASCINATION



I looked, and there before me was a black horse! Its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand. Then I heard what sounded like a voice among the four living creatures, saying, "A quart of wheat for a dinares, and three quarts of barley for a dinares"

#### WHY COMMODITIES MATTER AGAIN...

#### •Commodities key part of the story, with

- high price levels and strong volatility
- tight markets and supply side constraints
- states and their proxies (SWFs, regulatory bodies) as key actors in markets
- added factor Climate Change debate

Intense politicization and securitization of commodity markets Commodities as key strategic issue in a multipolar world Emerging nexus of environmental, economic & security policy

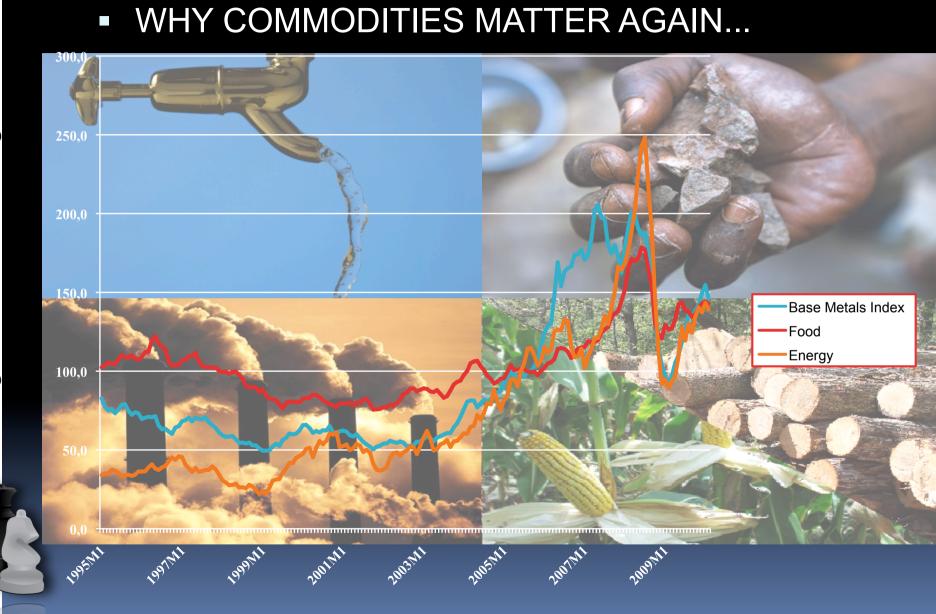
# Scarcity: source of conflicts

#### Examples: Africa according to UNEP 2009

- Angola (1975-2002): oil, diamant
- DRC (1996-2008): copper, coltan, diamant, cobalt, wood, tin.
- Congo (1997 -): oil.
- Ivory Coast (2002-2007): diamant, cacao, cotton.
- Liberia (1989-2003): wood, diamant, iron, palm oil, cacao, coffe, rubber, gold.
- Senegal: wood, cashew nuts.
- Sierra Leone (1991 –2000), diamant, cacao, coffe.
- Sudan (1983-2005): oil

## Fact Sheet UN Environment Programme

- Since 1990, 18 violent conflicts have been fuelled by the exploitation of natural resources.
- 40% of all intrastate conflicts since 1960 have a link to natural resources.
- Intrastate conflicts linked to natural resources are twice as likely to relapse to conflict in five years.
- Less than a quarter of peace negotiations aiming to resolve conflicts with links to natural resources have addressed resource management mechanisms.

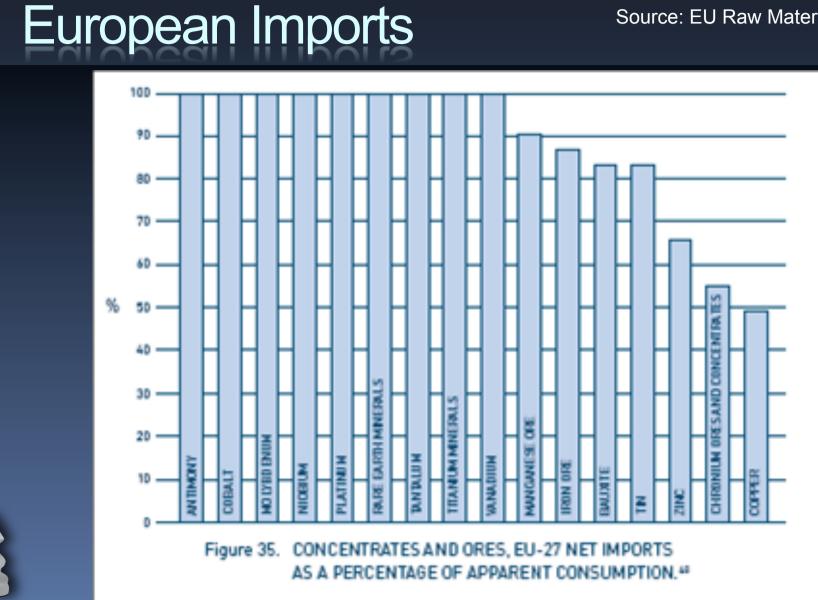


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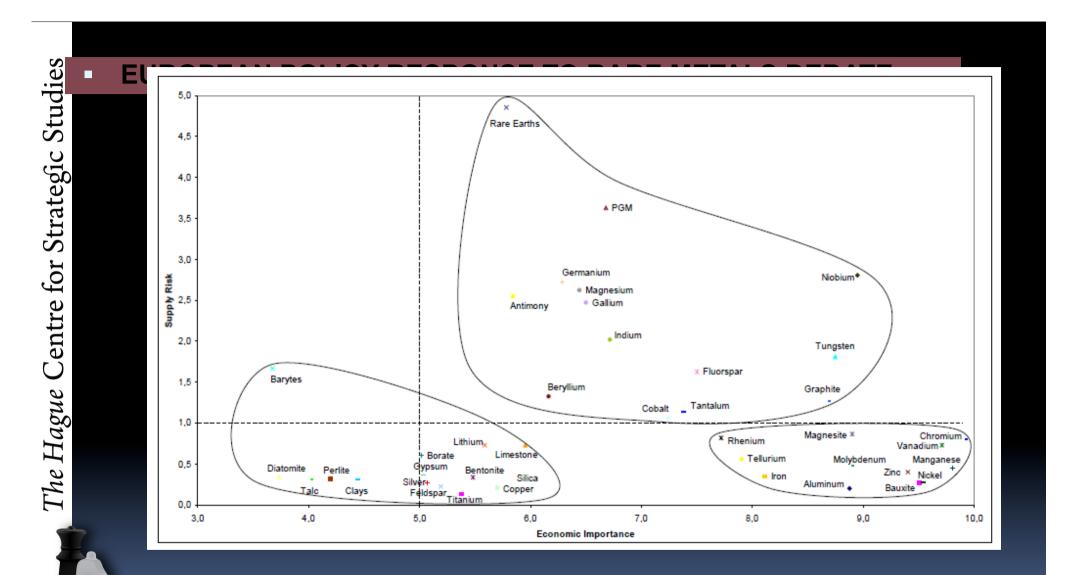
#### Industrial Minerals are the Enablers of Modern Technology







Source: EU Raw Material Initiative



Source: European Commission, DG Enterprise and Industry "Critical Raw Materials for the EU" Brussels, 2010.

#### **Forecast Global Supply and Demand 2012**

Forecast Global Supply and Demand in 2012				
	Demand		Supply/Production*	
Rare Earth	REO		REO	
Oxide	Tonnes	(%)	Tonnes	(%)
Lanthanum	54,000	28.4	59,000	26.8
Cerium	69 <b>,500</b>	36.6	89,000	40.5
Praseodymium	7,000	3 <b>.7</b>	10,500	4.8
Neodymium	39,000	20.5	36,000	16.4
Samarium	2,000	1.1	4,500	2.0
Europium	1,100	0.6	1,000	0.5
Gadolinium	200	0.1	3,500	1.6
Terbium	600	0.3	300	0.1
D <b>y</b> sprosium	2,500	1.3	2,000	0.9
Erbium	850	0.4	1,000	0.5
Yttrium	13,000	6.8	12,000	5.5
Ho-Tm-Yb-Lu	250	0.1	1,200	0.5
Total	190,000	100.0	220,000	100.0

Source: Ros kill 2007 and IMCOA

\*Figures have been rounded, Analysis based on current industry average grades

## Examples: recent Chinese investments in Africa

- Sudan: 40% of its oil goes to China
- Guinea: negotiations over 7 billion investments in infrastructure-for-minerals (oil, bauxite, iron ore)
- Liberia: treaty of 2.6 billion iron ore exploitation
- Nigeria: negotiations for 15% of oil reserves exploitation (\$30-50 billion)
- Niger: loan of \$95 million for uranium mine
- DRC: \$9 billion deal for infrastructure-for-minerals
- Angola: 40% van oil goes to China
- Rwanda: loan of \$250 million for infrastructure-for-minerals
  - South Africa: biggest trade partner. Part: 20% in Standard Bank. Zimbabwe: loans (\$950million), weapon deals and MOU for nickel, copper and cobalt

#### **GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION IN RARE METAL MARKETS**

#### •Rare metals are especially prominent in the resource debate due to:

- Western import-dependence & crucial role of China
- indispensability for high- & green-tech applications
- inelasticity & concentration of supply
- fast-growing & highly volatile demand

# This creates supply security concerns and makes (some) metals into "strategic" resources!

The strategic value & political economy of each metal is unique, evolving rapidly, and ...

#### GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION IN RARE METAL MARKETS

•In response to supply security concerns, **importing countries** 

- designate particular rare metals as "critical"
- actively monitor supply and demand
- create stockpiles & develop domestic supply
- diversify & secure supply
- regulate trade and consumption

#### •Authorities of **exporting countries** seek to

- increase profits through taxation, licensing, nationalization
- control valuable downstream industries through preferential supply or export restrictions
- use rare metals as strategic bargaining chips.

#### EUROPEAN POLICY RESPONSE TO RARE METALS DEBATE

•Raw Materials Initiative (RMI) led by DG Enterprise & Industry resulted in the **2008 Communication** with focus on non-energy mineral resources:

Ensure equal access for European industry globally
Promote supply expansion from European sources
Boost resource efficiency and recycling

#### •Follow-up **EU criticality study** released June 2010:

Examines 41 minerals and metals with 14 labeled as "critical"
Recommends to tailor policy responses for each critical material
Extensive consultation process has just been wrapped up

• Watch out! A new **Commission Communication** on latest developments and the progress of the RMI at the end of this year

#### COMMISSION RESEARCH INTO

RARE METAL SUPPLY CHAIN BOTTLENECKS

EU 2020 strategic targets:

•20% less carbon emissions

•20% energy savings

•20% green energy supply

•The **Joint Research Commission** (JRC) is examining rare metals supply chain bottlenecks that might prevent realization of 2020 Targets

(HCSS, Oakdene Hollins, and Namtec in the lead)

•Will list metals that provide serious obstacles to deploying **high-priority** energy technologies

Includes concrete recommendations how to ensure adequate supply
Study to be published Spring 2010

#### WHERE DOES EUROPE STAND ON RARE METALS?

• EU is stepping ahead with member states' responses still fragmented:

•Germany is in the lead

•Strong French response has been somewhat delayed

•UK is still looking to develop a coherent policy

•Compared to US and Japanese efforts to ensure supply security:

•No stockpiling ; No establishment of domestic / Western supply chains for rare metals

•Little government investments as of yet

# Conclusions

- No immediate depletion in short term expected
- Picture for longer term is worrisome for a number of important materials
- Friction effects can be expected well before actual depletion
- Need to formulate balanced message:
  - High prices for some materials
  - Need to Reduse, Reuse and Replace
  - Foreign Direct Investment
- Need to distinguish between
  - production capacity shortage and reserve depletion
  - trade conflicts and physical shortage
  - Need for a Dutch National Research Programme

# Netherlands

- National Research Programme
  - Monitoring & Analysis
    - Contextual developments: resources, scarcity, policy
    - Analysis of solutions: technology & policy
  - Innovation & Transition
    - Hightech materials & energy
  - Policy & Capacities
    - Policy to influence context and develop perspectives
    - Context dependent solutions, technology driven