



# WMF CRITICALITY ASSESSMENT

by BRGM, CRU & McKINSEY



Christophe POINSSOT,

Deputy CEO and Chief Scientific Officer,

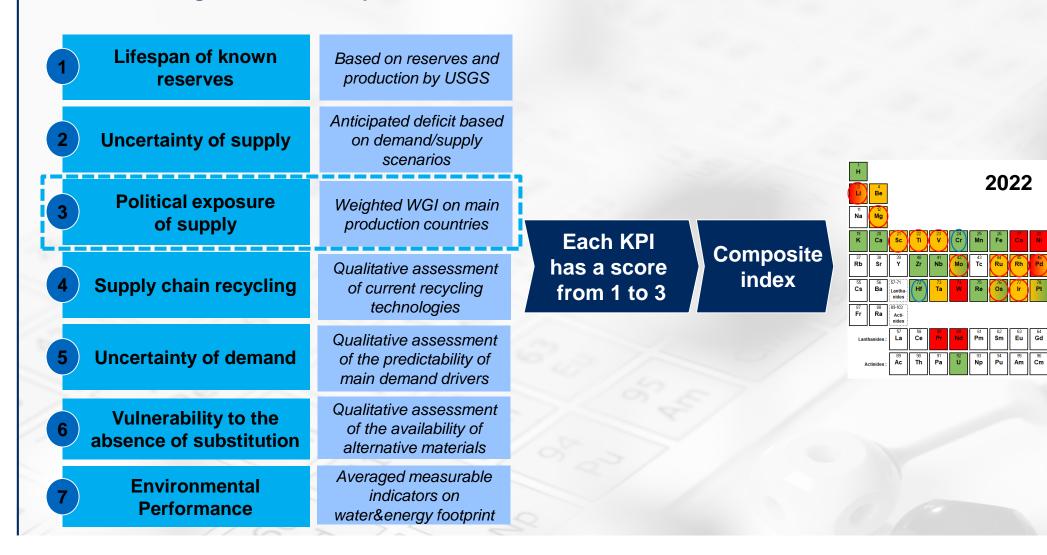
French Geological Survey,

# WMF Criticality assessment methodology





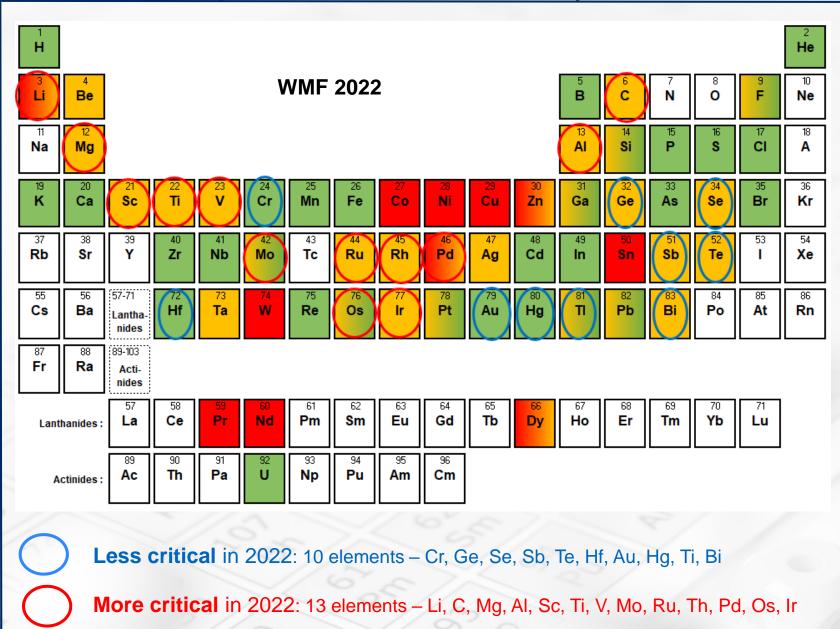
- Robust and traceable KPIs for identifying critical raw materials for industry
- Methodology is based on 7 quantitative and qualitative KPIs, with Environmental Performance introduced in 2021
- In 2022, change of Political exposure indicator from Fraser to World Bank WGI



# 2022 Criticality Assessment results by BRGM, CRU & McKinsey







## Red elements combine:

- Role in electrification & energy transition
- Long term uncertainties
- Short term supply chain bottlenecks
- Limited substitution possibilities
- Very high degree of risks
- High probability of risk occurrence
- Risk occurrence to be closely followed
- Low probability of risk occurrence
- Low degree of risks

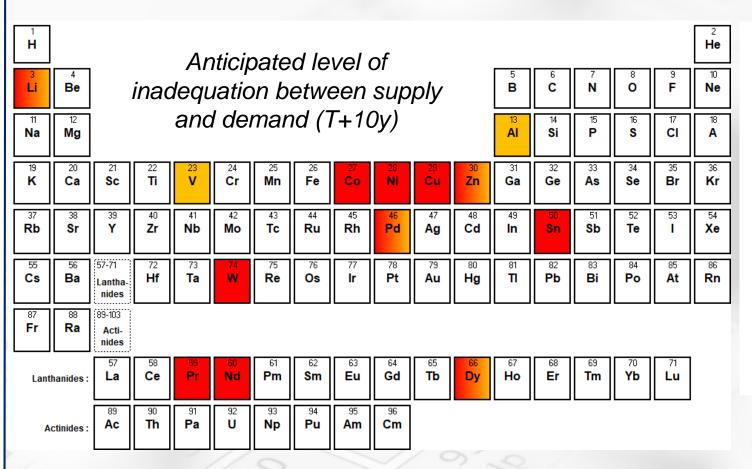
Note: Elements in white have not been assessed

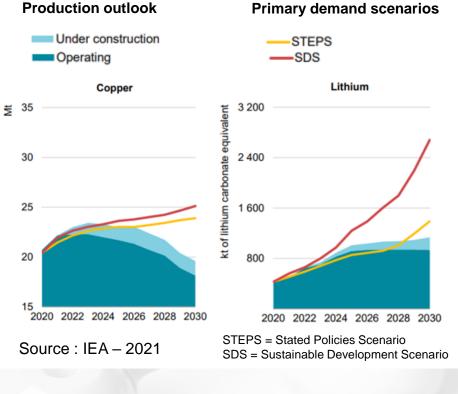
# 2022 : focus on criteria 2: Uncertainty of supply





- Supply cliffs anticipated for energy transition metals due in particular to:
  - Development time for new mining projects (especially grassroots)
  - Financing challenges





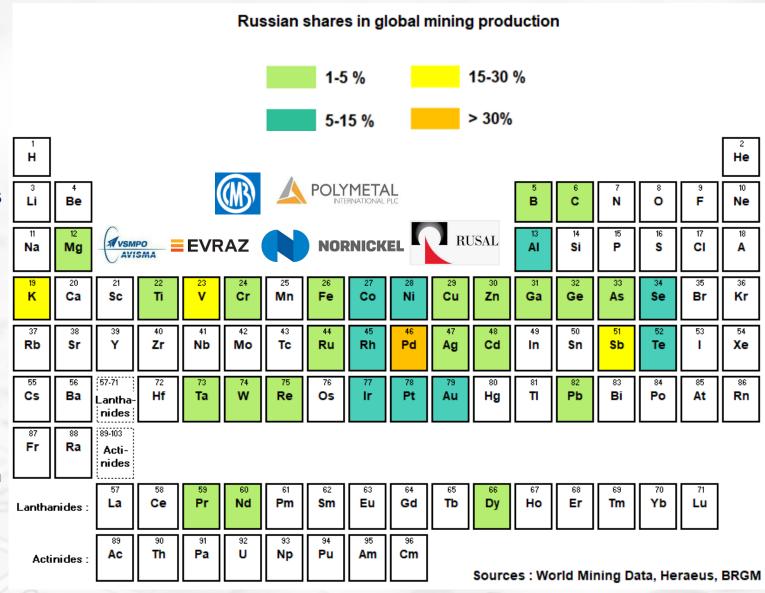
## Global impacts of Ukraine's invasion by Russia





# Russia = strategic position on several supply chains

- Although <30% at the world level,</li>
   Russia is responsible for a great diversity of metals production
- The highest is for palladium (37%)
- Large number of integrated companies and key role on bottlenecks
  - Palladium, Nickel, Cobalt (Nornickel)
  - Aluminum (Rusal)
  - Titanium (VSMPO AVISMA)
  - Vanadium (Evraz)
- Long term potential risks
  - Impact of continued escalation of sanctions (EU oil imports ban) and Russian responses (exports bans on metals, nationalizations...)
  - Large scale mining projects in Russia are put at risk
  - Commercial routes affected in CIS countries (e.g. Kazakhstan)



# Palladium case study: long term and global impacts





## Geopolitical exposure and sanctions

- Russia 2<sup>nd</sup> supplier of Pd in 2021 after South Africa
- April 2022: London Platinum and Palladium Market (LPPM) and CME Group removed 2 Russian refiners from accredited lists → exclusion of newly minted ingots → *price reaction*

#### Future supply-demand balance at risk

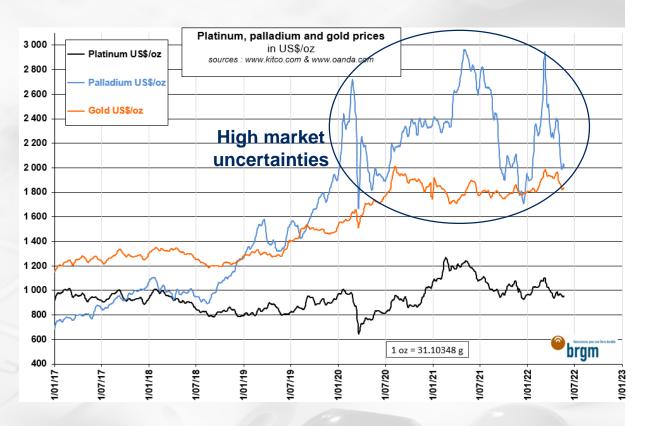
- Global uncertainty on future conventional ICE automotive market
- Limited geological alternatives for new deposits except for South Africa with risks associated:
  - Threats of strikes in the PGM mines
  - Risk of power failure with Eskom
  - Mining production costs are increasing

## Impacts on Platinum Group Metals (PGMs) supply

- Anticipated tightness on associated markets with high demand profile (especially Ir and Ru)
- Same geological problematics combined with supply inelasticity (by-products)

## PGM production in Russia in 2021 (Heraeus)

PGM	Pd	Pt	Rh	lr	Ru
Global rank	2 <sup>nd</sup> (37%)	2 <sup>nd</sup> (9,5%)	2 <sup>nd</sup> (9,1%)	3 <sup>rd</sup> (6,8%)	3 <sup>rd</sup> (3,3%)



# Specific impacts of Ukraine's invasion on EU supply chains



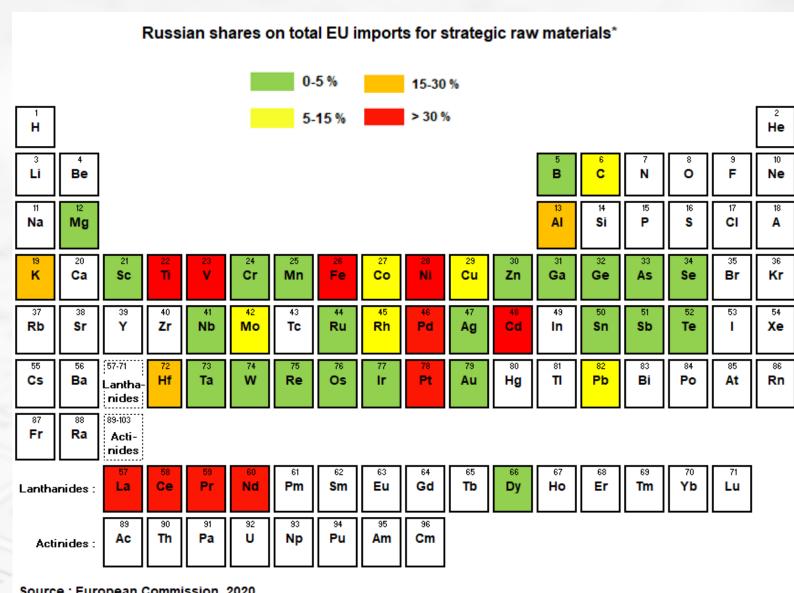


## **EU** dependency exposure highlighted

- Many industrial EU supply chains highly dependent on Russia on metals' supply
- **Increased pressure on supply** chains
  - Difficult pre-existing context for several OEMs
    - Covid crisis
    - Semiconductors crisis
    - **Energy crisis**
    - Inflationary pressures
  - LT trends impacting supply disruptions have been reinforced

#### Collective reactions needed

- Positive consensus on EU economic sanctions
- New national initiative on mineral intelligence (OFREMI)
- Need to integrate responsible mining in EU taxonomy



Source: European Commission, 2020

 <sup>\*</sup> Based on trade data (2012-2016), % of total imported tonnages by category

# Aluminium case study: short term and European





## EU Geopolitical exposure on alumina and aluminium products

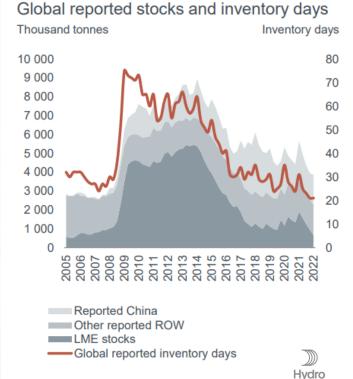
- Russia: 15%-20% of EU imports of primary Al products (~1 Mt/y of Al)
- Rusal's positioned as a key supplier of alumina, mainly through the Aughinish refinery in Ireland (~85% of France supply) used by aluminium producers

### Reinforced tightness on the aluminium market

- Prior to Russia's invasion:
  - Supply cuts in China to contain CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
  - Prohibitive production costs in Europe linked to higher energy prices leading to cuts (close to 750 kt off the market)
  - LME stocks at the lowest since 17 years Global stocks continuous decrease

### Short term consequences of the war

- March 2022 : fears from financial sanctions → Aluminum price rally
  - Sanctions materialized by UK asset freeze on Rusal's owner Deripaska
  - Rusal's Nikolaev Al-refinery in Ukraine halted
  - Continued closures in Europe (Essen plant, Trimet, Germany 35 kt)
- According to Goldman Sachs "900 kt/year production at risk due to loss of alumina supply as result of eventual suspension of primary smelting capacity in Russia"











#### **Christophe POINSSOT**

Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Chief Scientific Officer, <a href="mailto:c.poinssot@brgm.fr">c.poinssot@brgm.fr</a>

#### Gaétan LEFEBVRE, Mathieu LEGUÉRINEL

Experts in Mineral intelligence