

Special Issue

Protection and Sustainable Development of Mineral Resources

Message from the Guest Editors

Mineral resources are a crucial source of raw materials that enable the development of civilization.

The need for the protection of mineral resources and the search for new ones are indispensable. The problem concerns not only the safeguarding of already-known mineral deposits, which has been the subject of many international research projects in recent years. There is also the need for a broader discussion about the possibilities of sustainable development of exploration, and then the development of mineral resources in hitherto inaccessible areas.

Another important topic is related to the optimization of raw material production, mainly in terms of reducing the energy consumption of the technological processes.

The problem of sustainability in the development of, for example, photovoltaics or electromobility, generating demand for specific minerals, in terms of their low efficiency, short service life and generation of huge amounts of waste, also requires critical analysis and reliable assessment.

In this Special Issue, we will focus mainly on the primary mineral resources, although similar problems are related to the utilization of raw materials from secondary sources.

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