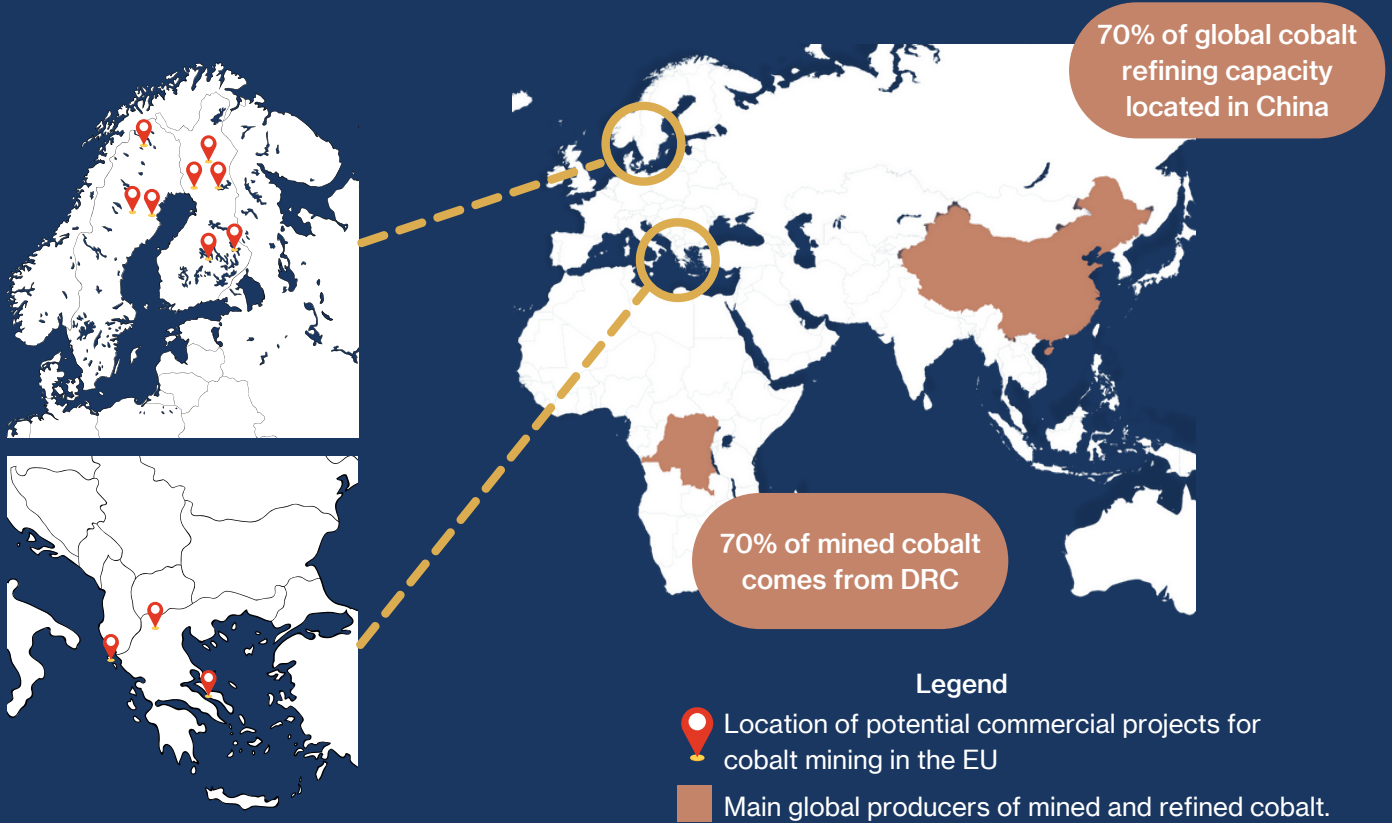




Cobalt mining in the EU

Securing supplies and ensuring energy justice

Mining potential in Europe and current supply dependencies



Domestic supply of cobalt



Information about the need to expand mining activities in the energy transition and the impact of mining abroad might decrease public opposition.



To expand mining and refining activities in Europe, a more favourable business environment and policies are needed to attract investments.



Permitting procedures should become more efficient without compromising social and environmental standards.



Demand for consumer products that use cobalt can be reduced through policies like shared mobility.



Domestic recycling can significantly reduce EU's strategic dependencies beyond 2030-2035.

Securing non-EU supply of cobalt



Domestic mining of cobalt could only provide a fraction (3.1%) of EU's demand in 2035.



Cooperating with Australia, Canada or other strategic partners can ensure cobalt supplies that comply with the EU's responsible sourcing requirements.



The global cobalt value chain should be improved. Investing in professionalising the artisanal mining sector can reduce the social and environmental impact of mining abroad.

The findings are also applicable to European mining of other critical minerals to the energy transition.