



FRIEDBERT PFLÜGER

Director of the European Cluster for Climate, Energy and Resource Security (EUCERS) at the University of Bonn, Founding Partner of Strategic Minds Company GmbH

Welcome ladies and gentlemen to our session on critical raw materials. Why are we having this session? Because energy has told us in recent months after the war in Ukraine that you should not be too dependent on a single supplier. As a German, I know what I am talking about. We need diversification and that is even more true when it comes to lithium, cobalt, copper, nickel, vanadium, and rare earths, which we all need for the devices we need daily in our modern lives. Therefore, this subject has an enormous geopolitical meaning. If we are not able to secure affordable, reliable raw materials, our industries cannot survive. That is why we decided with Thierry de Montbrial, Song-Nim Kwon and others, to put this on the agenda. We have great experts with us, two here and two online.