

## **Background**

- 1980-1990's: Structural adjustments in developing countries;
- Tightening of environmental legislation in the Global North;
- Mining companies, and NGOs shifted to the Global South;
- Conflicts, and scandals (e.g. Ok Tedi, Porgera, Bre-X);
- Mining industry reaction: associations, codes, programs, guidelines, and reporting;
- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR);
- CEO Mr. Cooney (1997): social license to operate (SLO);
- 2000: China's growth commodity boom;
- Conflicts multiplicate; need for SLO, and CSR increased.











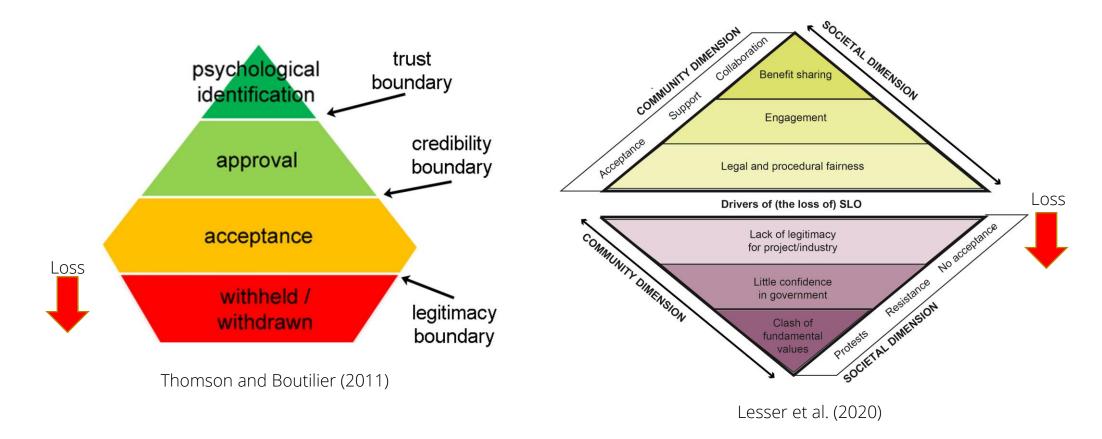


#### SOCIAL LICENSE TO OPERATE (SLO)

Main concepts:

- Thomson and Boutilier (2011):
- Acceptance/approval of operations by local community and stakeholders
- Stakeholders: anyone who can be impacted by or able to impact the operations
- SLO: not a formal legal license given by authorities, but it is a consent given by the society for the activities (community)
- Can be lost at any time;
- Fundamental for access to land to explore and exploit;
- Its lack may indicate disputes/conflicts;
- Conflicts may cause delays and extra-costs, or even stop of a project
- Good company-community relationship reduce the risks for that: TRUST
- SLO needed for the society's mineral raw material supply

# SLO and protests: indication for its lack or challenging





# Dispute classification (EJAtlas, Temper et al. 2015)

#### Categories:

- High: mobilization, violence, mass arrests, etc. (conflicts)
- Medium: street protests, visible organizing;
- Low: some local organizing
- Latent: no visible organizing



#### • ICMM (2015):

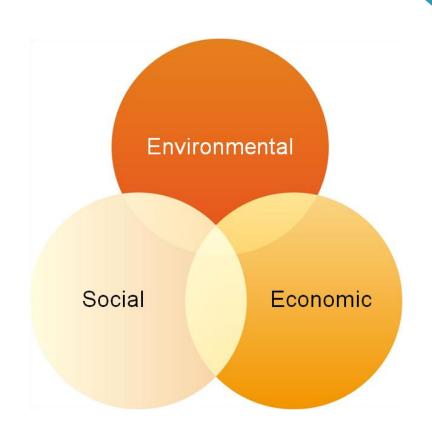
- Disputes arise when two or more parties believe their interests are incompatible.
- Non-violent disputes can be essential to social progress and development and are often a feature of the interactions between mining companies, host communities and host governments.
- Disputes or related protests can escalate towards conflict that weaken or damage relationships between companies and communities.
- When <u>conflict</u> does occur, demonstrations or protest may result in <u>physical violence</u>.

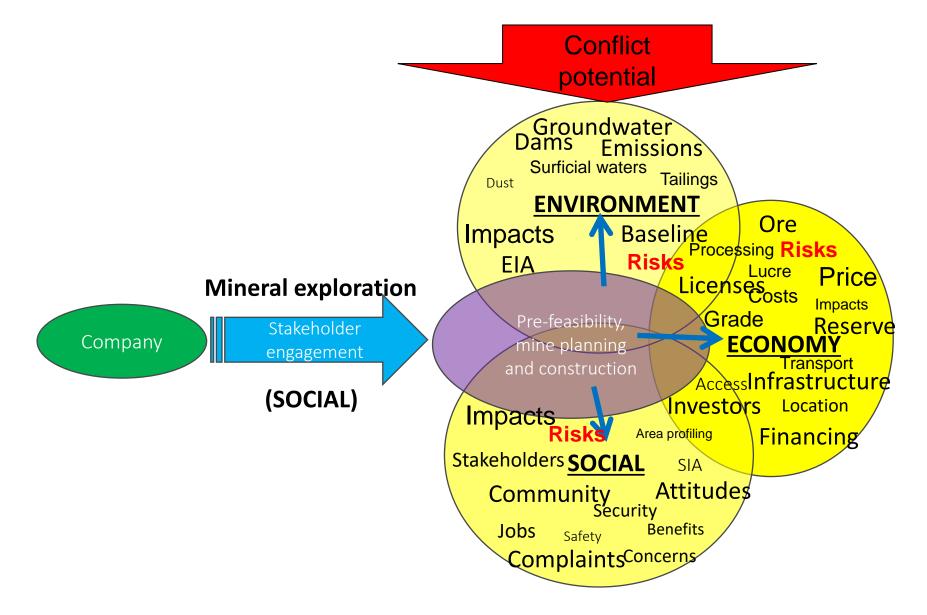




# Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

- CSR: voluntary-based actions
- Three pillars: Economic, Social, and Environmental
- Bottom line: Legislation
- Economic: financial balance, and benefit sharing
- Environmental: impact mitigation
- **Social**: stakeholder engagement, participation, collaboration
- Sustainability reporting;
- Goal: better business, more profit, everybody happy
- Replaced by ESG <u>requested</u> by investors



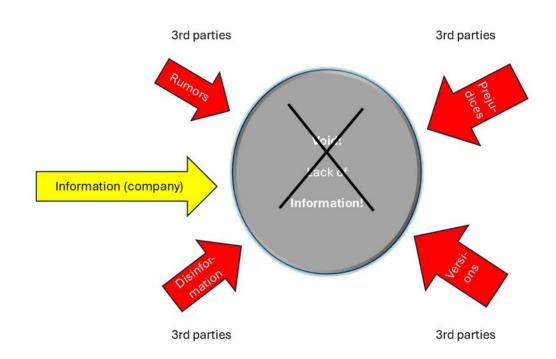






# The importance of information:

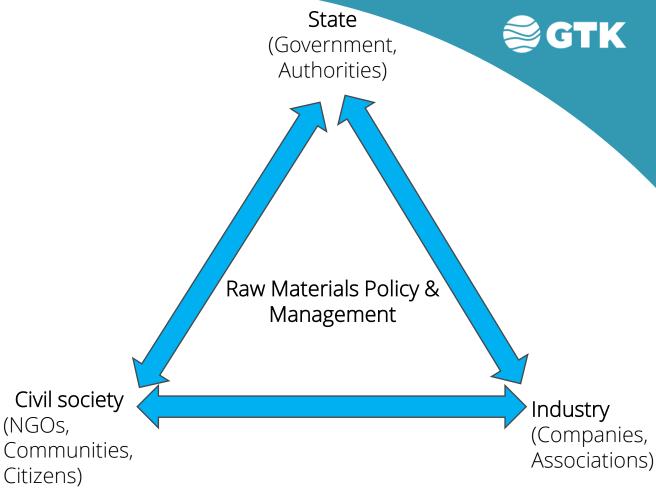
- During the engagement and meetings;
- Take advantage be the first to give it proactively;
- People do not know the difference between mining, and mineral exploration;
- Raise public awareness on geosciences;
- Fill the gap;
- Lack of information: Void
- Can be fulfilled by 3rd parties with their versions;
- Distortion
- Disinformation
- Controversies
- Dispute/conflict
- Little chance for dialogue.





### **State and Mineral Governance**

- Basic rights and services;
- Permits;
- Monitoring;
- Responses to demands and protests;
- Reforms, regulation changes
- Shape the development of disputes/conflicts;
- Disputes/conflicts;
- Balance between diverse actors, power and influence



**ROLES AND TRUST** 



## **Finland**

- Until 1990's: National, state-owned mineral industry;
- 1995: EU foreign companies allowed to enter into the country;
- 2005-2008: *Uranium dispute*;
- 2010-2012: Talvivaara Ni mine (*Mining dispute*)
- Government action, social science research projects;
- Finnish Network for Sustainable Mining:
- Few other disputes/conflicts, coalition of NGOs x Dragon Mining
- 2018 -> : Battery minerals boom
- New cycle of disputes related to Co, Ni and graphite exploration
- Discussion on participation, rights, mining tax, roayalties, and renovation of the Mining Act;
- Petition for no-go zones.



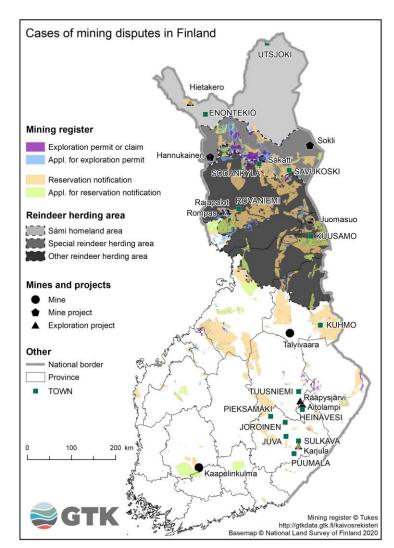






# **Ongoing Mining Disputes in Finland**

- Concentrated in Lapland and SE Finland
- Long-term disputes: Northern Finland (mine and development project, minor mineral exploration)
- Most recent ones: Lake areas (mineral exploration)
- Focused on metals
- Booms (uranium and battery minerals)
- 20 cases, 17 companies;
- 23% of companies involved in disputes;
- Good cases!





# Actors and evolution of the Finnish mining-sceptical movement

Uranium Debate (2005-present)

FANC

No Uranium Mine in Kuusamo Lappish against Uranium Mines No Uranium Mines in North Karelia Uraaniton.org

#### Mining Debate (2010-present)

Anti-mining Coalition of the Deatnu

Valley

**FANC** 

Friends of the Earth

Kitkan viisaat

North Karelian Degrowth Movement

Not in Kaavi

Pro Kuusamo

Pro Polvijärvi

Pro Ylläs

Save Viiankiaapa

Stop Talvivaara

Rising Tide Network

Paradox: support for mining increases!

#### **Green Energy Transition (2016-present)**

**Extinction Rebellion** 

FANC

Friends of the Sompio Nature

Heinijärvi Conservation Association

Inari Friends of the Nature

Kitkan viisaat

Koli Landscape Movement

Limit to Mines in Lapland

Pro Heinävesi

Pro Joroinen

Pro Kiiminki

Pro Kuusamo

Pro Osikonmäki

Pro Pieksämäki

Pro Puruvesi

Pro Rautalampi

Pro Ylläs

Rising Tide Network

Saimaa without Mines

Save Kaapelinkulma

Save Viiankiaapa

Sompio Friends of the Nature

Tammela Water Protection

Wilderness Sokli



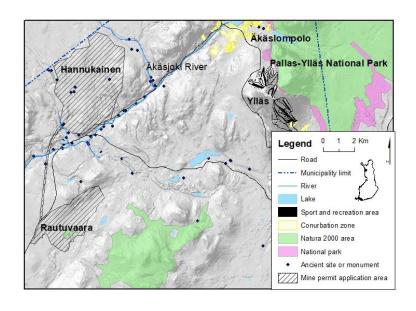
Quantification of issues and concerns:

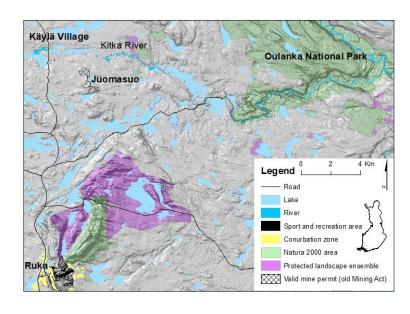
Corporate conduct, commodity and place

Akkerman Arctic Minerals Boliden Finnex BR Gold Mining Dragon Mining Fennoscandian Resources FinnAust Mining Magnus Minerals Pallagen Rio Tinto Suomen malmitutkimus  Arctic Minerals Boliden Finnex Boliden Finnex BR Gold Mining Grafintech FinnAust Mining Magnus Minerals Mawson Pallagen	Hietakero Martimo, Ivalo-Inari Pieksämäki-Joroinen Osikonmäki Kaapelinkulma Heinävesi, Tuusniemi Hyrkkylä-Korkkosaari-Märkälä Joensuu-Kontionlahti-Ilomantsi Kalkkinen Rautalampi Juva-Puumala-Sulkava  Martimo Pieksämäki-Joroinen Piekäsmäki-Joroinen Osikonmäki Heinävesi, Tuusniemi Hyrkkylä-Kirkkosaari-Märkälä Joensuu-Kontionlahti-Ilomantsi	2 10
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Rio Tinto Suomen malmitutkimus	Korpilahti Kalkkinen Rautalampi Juva-Puumala-Sulkava	
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Akkerman Arctic Minerals	Hietakero Inari-Ivalo	2
Akkerman Arctic Minerals Hannukainen Mining Sakatti Mining Finnish Minerals Group	Hietakero Inari-Ivalo Hannukainen Sakatti Sokli	5
Grafintech Hannukainen Mining Latitude 66 Cobalt Suomen malmitutkimus	Hienävesi, Tuusniemi Hannukainen Juomasuo Juva-Puumala-Sulkava	5
Talvivaara/Terrafame	Talvivaara	1
Beowulf (Grafintech) Dragon Mining	Heinävesi, Tuusniemi Juomasuo, Kaapelinkulma, Orivesi	2
Latitude 66 Cobalt Mawson Terrafame Finnish Minerals Group	Juomasuo Rompas-Rajapalot Talvivaara Sokli	4
	Suomen malmitutkimus  Akkerman Arctic Minerals Fennoscandian Resources Sakatti Mining Mawson Rio Tinto  Akkerman Arctic Minerals Akkerman Arctic Minerals Hannukainen Mining Sakatti Mining Finnish Minerals Group  Grafintech Hannukainen Mining Latitude 66 Cobalt Suomen malmitutkimus  Talvivaara/Terrafame Beowulf (Grafintech) Dragon Mining Latitude 66 Cobalt Mawson Terrafame	Pallagen Rio Tinto Suomen malmitutkimus Akkerman Arctic Minerals Fennoscandian Resources Sakatti Mining Mawson Rio Tinto Akkerman Arctic Minerals Hietakero Inari-Ivalo Akkerman Arctic Minerals Hietakero Inari-Ivalo Akkerman Arctic Minerals Hietakero Fennoscandian Resources Arctic Minerals Hietakero Inari-Ivalo Akkerman Arctic Minerals Hietakero Hietakero Hietakero Jari-Ivalo Hannukainen Jakatti Mining Juomasuo Juomasuo Juomasuo Juomasuo Juomasuo Fernafame Arctic Minerals Juomasuo Juomasuo Kaapelinkulma, Orivesi Latitude 66 Cobalt Juomasuo Rompas-Rajapalot Terrafame Talvivaara

# 'Not in My Leisure Area!' (NIMLA): tourism and cottages

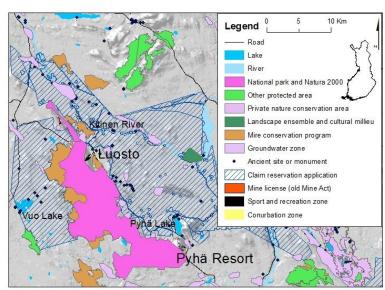


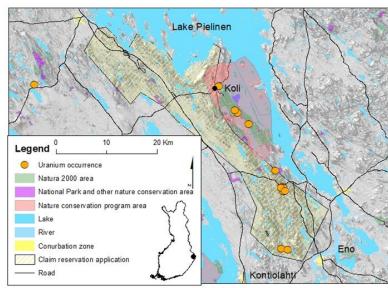


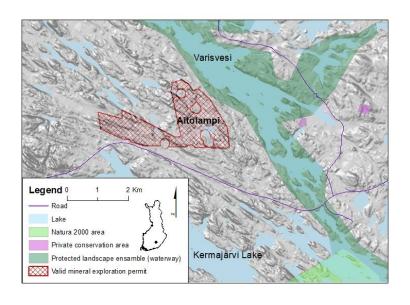


Landscapes with prominent quartzite hills and/or geological structures (water systems)







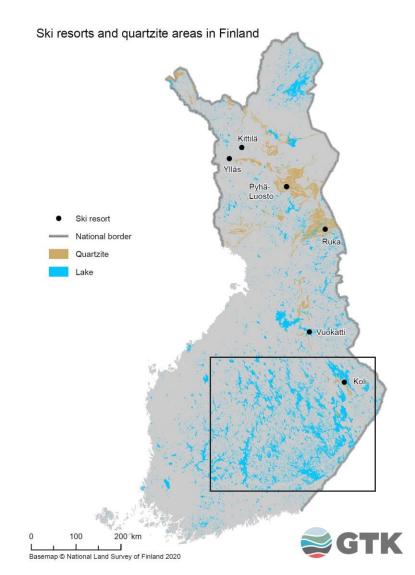


Social and Political Geology 9/11/2025 15



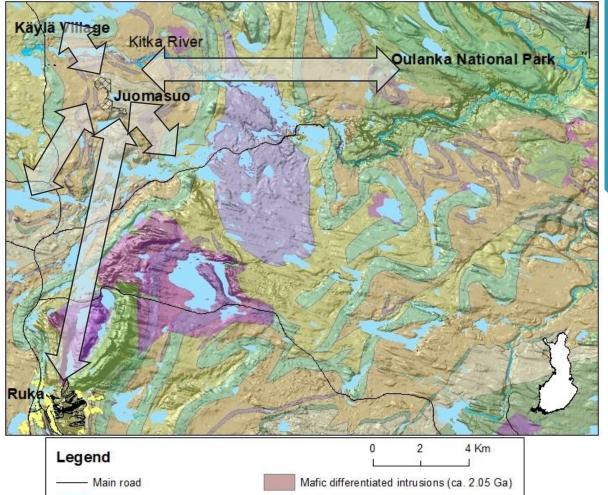
# Social and political geology of tourism and second homes

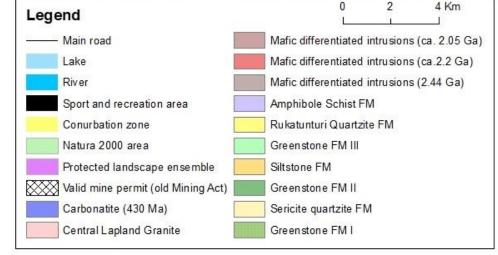
- Quartzite: quartz-bearing metamorphosed sandstone
- Resistant to weathering and erosion;
- Prominent geomorphological features in landscape;
- Tourism and recreation destinations;
- Mineral deposits and/or mining and mineral exploration projects closeby;
- Most of them related to disputes;
- NIMLA;



# Social and political geology: Geo- and ecosystem services

- Kuusamo:
  - History of natural resource disputes;
  - Among the oldest mining-related disputes;
  - Kouvervaara (uranium exploration);
  - Juomasuo mineral deposit (Au, Co);
  - Uranium;
  - Nature-based tourism and recreation;
  - Ruka resort (quartzite hill, landscape);
  - National Park (protected biodiversity on a greenstone belt);
  - Lakes and rivers;
  - "Interaction and communication" with each other;
  - Human interests;
  - "Political "actors" with "agency";





## Characteristics and causes:

- Dispute classification (EJAtlas): low to medium intensity
- Predominantly in mineral exploration;
- Foreign companies (resource nationalism);
- Importance of place: target selection
- Corporate conduct: lack of communication and stakeholder engagement;
- Poor reputation from past disputes or misconduct;
- Generation of the mining-sceptical movement;
- Impacts on mineral governance;
- CSR, ESG;
- Social and political geology: spatial studies





