



17 NOV. 2025

## SUMMARY OF DAY 1

### Securing Europe's Access to Critical Raw Materials

**Day 1** of Antimony Day 2025 set the stage for urgent action on **critical raw materials** (CRMs), bringing together policymakers, business leaders, and experts to address Europe's growing dependency, industrial risks, and resilience strategies. Held during **Critical Raw Materials Week**, the sessions broadened the perspective beyond antimony to more general policy, market, and circularity issues affecting all CRMs.



### Key Themes & Takeaways

#### From Policy to Sovereignty

Europe has strong ambitions—but struggles to implement. Speakers underlined the need to align strategic goals with industrial reality. CRM sovereignty is now inseparable from **Europe's energy independence and economic strength**.

#### The Overlooked Enablers of Resilience

Materials like antimony, lithium, and graphite often fly under the radar—but are essential for sectors like solar energy, batteries, and flame retardants. Sodium antimonate in glass manufacturing was presented as a European success story. Speakers urged greater **political visibility and long-term investment** in these “quietly critical” materials.



#### Circularity with a Business Case

**Innovation and circularity** were key buzzwords—but without viable business models, they won't scale. Europe must:

- Accelerate **permitting processes**,
- Lower **energy costs**,
- Incentivise **local production** and **recycling**,
- Support technologies that **recover multiple CRMs**.

The Vianode case (relocating to Canada) illustrated the consequences of policy inertia.



#### A Strategic Wake-Up Call

Opening speeches from i2a and CRM Alliance stressed that we are entering a new phase of **de-globalisation**. Europe must **rethink** its supply chains, **diversify** sources, and urgently act to **reinforce** its industrial base. **Without CRMs, there is no Green Deal, digital transition, or defence autonomy.**

#### FINAL MESSAGE

*Day 1 closed with a clear warning and a call to action:*

Europe is at a **critical juncture**. The continent **cannot afford to be passive** in securing the raw materials that underpin its strategic future. Antimony and its “quiet peers” may not be front-page news, but they are **foundational to Europe's sovereignty**.





18 NOV. 2025

## SUMMARY OF DAY 2

### Securing Europe's Industrial Resilience through Strategic Raw Materials

**Day 2** of Antimony Day 2025 brought together policymakers, industry leaders, researchers, and analysts to delve deep into the strategic, geopolitical, and technological challenges surrounding the antimony value chain. Across seven dynamic sessions and a closing address, the discussions painted a clear picture: **Europe must act fast, decisively, and strategically to secure access to critical raw materials like antimony.**



## Key Themes & Takeaways

### From Ambition to Action

While Europe recognises the importance of CRMs, implementation lags behind ambition. Slow permitting, fragmented regulation, and high costs threaten EU competitiveness. Speakers stressed that **Europe must reduce dependencies, cut red tape, and unlock financing tools** to build strategic autonomy.

### Global Competition & Strategic Pressure

With **China** tightening export controls, antimony supply chains are under geopolitical pressure. **Antimony has become a strategic asset**, vital to defence, electronics, and energy sectors. Europe risks being left behind unless it mirrors U.S. actions like **stockpiling, price floors, and accelerated permitting.**

### Circularity & Recycling: An Untapped Opportunity

**Antimony's circular potential is strong**—yet Europe loses valuable material due to regulatory bottlenecks. DEEMines' innovation in flame-retardant plastics shows that circular solutions exist. **Scaling requires faster intra-EU shipment approvals and dedicated recycling incentives.**

### Innovation & Technology: Investing in the Midstream

Speakers called for **more midstream investment** in refining and processing to reduce import dependence. Defence applications and technological innovation further justify antimony's critical status. Europe must build a **resilient ecosystem from mine to product.**

### Markets & Trade: Tight Supply, Low Transparency

China's export restrictions, mine depletion, and fragile global supply chains have created a **volatile market**. Southeast Asia's smelter growth—backed by China—exposes **Europe's vulnerability**. **Participants called for better market data, governance, and risk tools.**

### FINAL MESSAGE

Antimony may be a small market by volume, but its **strategic role is outsized**. Day 2 closed with a powerful message from Raymond Devaux (i2a President): **Europe must now move from words to action—with coordinated policy, industrial investment, and circularity at the core of its resilience strategy.**

Let's not forget: *Antimony is critical, strategic, and indispensable.*

