The Geopolitics of Energy and Critical Minerals Training Course

Professional Development Training Course Outline

Category	Political Science and International Relations	**Duration**	5 Days
Base Fee	$1,500 USD	**Delivery Mode**	Online / On-site Hybrid

Course Introduction

The global energy landscape is undergoing a profound **energy transition**, shifting from a hydrocarbon-based system to one driven by **renewable energy** and **electrification**. This seismic change is reshaping international relations, creating new dependencies, and highlighting the strategic importance of **critical minerals** like lithium, cobalt, and rare earths. As nations compete for secure supply chains and technological dominance, the traditional geopolitics of oil and gas is being replaced by a new framework where control over these essential resources is paramount. This course provides an in-depth analysis of these shifting dynamics, equipping participants with the knowledge to navigate the complex and interconnected world of energy security, resource nationalism, and international policy.

The Geopolitics of Energy and Critical Minerals Training Course is designed to provide a strategic understanding of the new **geopolitical landscape** of energy and critical minerals. We will explore how the race for **clean energy** technologies is creating new power dynamics, from the rise of new mineral-rich nations to the strategic vulnerabilities of industrialized economies. Through a blend of theoretical frameworks and practical case studies, participants will learn to anticipate and manage **geopolitical risks** associated with supply chain disruptions, trade disputes, and environmental regulations. The course offers a vital toolkit for policymakers, industry professionals, and analysts seeking to thrive in a world defined by the **net-zero transition** and the increasing **strategic competition** for vital resources.

Programme Curriculum

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Course Duration

5 days

Course Objectives

- Understand the **geopolitical implications** of the global **energy transition**.
- Analyze the **strategic importance** of **critical minerals** in the **clean energy** supply chain.
- Evaluate the new **power dynamics** and **resource nationalism** in the context of renewable energy.
- Assess **supply chain vulnerabilities** and **geopolitical risks** associated with key minerals.
- Examine the role of major global players in the new energy landscape (e.g., China, USA, Russia).
- Formulate strategies for **energy security** in a transitioning world.
- Grasp the interplay between **climate policy**, **economic development**, and **geopolitics**.
- Explore the impact of technological innovation on energy and mineral security.
- Identify opportunities and challenges in **sustainable mining** and **responsible sourcing**.
- Develop a framework for **risk analysis** and scenario planning.
- Understand the role of international organizations and **governance frameworks**.
- Analyze the nexus of **energy security**, national security, and international relations.
- Evaluate the future of fossil fuels in a decarbonizing world.

Organizational Benefits

- Equip your team with the ability to anticipate and prepare for future **geopolitical risks** in energy and critical minerals.
- Improve strategic planning and investment decisions by incorporating a deep understanding of geopolitical factors.
- Reduce exposure to **supply chain disruptions**, trade tensions, and political instability.
- Stay ahead of the curve by understanding the emerging trends and power shifts in the global energy market.
- Build internal capacity for developing and implementing effective **energy policy** and **sustainability** strategies.

Target Audience

- Government Officials & Diplomats in Energy and Foreign Policy Ministries
- Energy Sector Analysts & Consultants
- Professionals in Mining, Metals, and Extractive Industries
- Academics & Researchers in Geopolitics and International Relations
- Investors and Financial Analysts in the Energy & Materials sectors
- Defense & National Security Professionals
- Corporate Strategists and Business Development Managers
- International Organization Representatives

Course Outline

Module 1: The New Global Energy Landscape

- The Energy Trilemma: Balancing security, affordability, and sustainability.
- Decline of Fossil Fuels: Analyzing the long-term geopolitical implications of oil and gas's diminishing role.
- Rise of Renewables: Exploring how solar, wind, and hydropower are creating new centers of power.
- The Role of Electrification: Understanding the shift towards an electricity-based global economy.
- **Case Study:** The impact of the European Green Deal on Russia's energy dominance.

Module 2: The Geopolitics of Critical Minerals

- Defining Criticality: What makes a mineral "critical" and how does that status change?
- Concentration of Supply: Analyzing the dominance of a few countries (e.g., China, DR Congo) in the mineral supply chain.
- The "New OPEC": The potential for a cartel-like organization for critical minerals.
- Strategic Competition: The race among major powers to secure mineral access.
- **Case Study:** China's control over rare earth elements and its geopolitical leverage.

Module 3: Supply Chain Vulnerabilities and Resilience

- Mapping the Supply Chain: From mine to market, identifying key choke points.
- Single-Point Failures: The risks of over-reliance on a single country or company.
- Building Resilience: Strategies for diversification, stockpiling, and recycling.
- Trade Controls and Tariffs: The use of protectionist measures to secure supply.
- **Case Study:** The impact of the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) on global battery supply chains.

Module 4: National Security and Geopolitical Risk

- Energy as a Weapon: The use of energy and minerals as a tool for political coercion.
- Resource Conflicts: The potential for disputes and conflicts over mineral-rich regions.
- Protecting Infrastructure: The security risks to pipelines, grids, and renewable energy facilities.
- Strategic Alliances: How nations are forming new partnerships to ensure supply.
- **Case Study:** The political and security risks of cobalt mining in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Module 5: Major Players and Regional Dynamics

- The United States: From energy independence to securing the clean energy supply chain.
- China's Dominance: Analyzing China's long-term strategy in critical minerals and renewable energy.
- The European Union: The quest for strategic autonomy and diversification.
- Russia & Middle East: The adaptation of traditional energy powers to the new landscape.
- **Case Study:** The competition between China and the U.S. in the South American "lithium triangle."

Module 6: ESG, Governance, and Sustainability

- Responsible Sourcing: The importance of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards.
- Sustainable Mining Practices: Exploring new technologies and regulations for cleaner extraction.
- Indigenous Rights: The role of local communities and indigenous populations in mining.
- The Circular Economy: The potential of recycling and a circular economy to reduce mineral demand.
- **Case Study:** The challenges of implementing ethical and sustainable mining practices in conflict zones.

Module 7: The Role of Technology and Innovation

- Battery Technology: The impact of new battery chemistries on demand for specific minerals.
- Advanced Exploration: Using AI and satellite data to find new mineral deposits.
- Energy Storage: The geopolitical implications of grid-scale energy storage solutions.
- Direct Lithium Extraction: New technologies that could reshape the lithium market.
- **Case Study:** The potential of seabed mining and the role of the International Seabed Authority.

Module 8: Future Scenarios and Strategic Foresight

- Policy Implications: How governments can navigate the new energy and mineral landscape.
- Investment Trends: Where capital is flowing in the clean energy and critical minerals sectors.
- Future Scenarios: Developing plausible scenarios for the future of energy geopolitics.
- Mitigation Strategies: Formulating a robust strategy for your organization.
- **Case Study:** The long-term geopolitical implications of a global hydrogen economy.

Training Methodology

This course employs a dynamic and interactive methodology to ensure maximum engagement and learning retention. The approach combines theoretical instruction with practical application.

- **Expert-Led Lectures:** Delivered by subject matter experts with real-world experience.
- **Interactive Discussions:** Fostering a collaborative environment to share insights and perspectives.
- **In-depth Case Studies:** Applying theoretical concepts to real-world geopolitical events and business challenges.
- **Group Exercises and Workshops:** Hands-on activities to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- **Scenario Planning:** Using strategic foresight tools to anticipate future trends and risks.

Register as a group from 3 participants for a Discount

Send us an email: info@fineskilltrainingcenter.org or call *+254769199797*

Certification

Upon successful completion of this training, participants will be issued with a globally- recognized certificate.

Tailor-Made Course

We also offer tailor-made courses based on your needs.

Key Notes

a. The participant must be conversant with English.

b. Upon completion of training the participant will be issued with an Authorized Training Certificate

c. Course duration is flexible and the contents can be modified to fit any number of days.

d. The course fee includes facilitation training materials, 2 coffee breaks, buffet lunch and A Certificate upon successful completion of Training.

e. One-year post-training support Consultation and Coaching provided after the course.

f. Payment should be done at least a week before commence of the training, to Fineskill Training Center account, as indicated in the invoice so as to enable us prepare better for you.

Upcoming Scheduled Sessions

Start Date	End Date	Location	Price
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Online	$1,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$1,500
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$3,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$3,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$4,500
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000

Ready to enroll or request a customized program? Book online or contact us:

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