

The most important events that took place within the Save Roșia Montană Campaign:

28 July 2002 - Alburnus Maior organized a public meeting in Roșia Montană. 250 local people attended this event, as well as numerous representatives of Romanian and foreign NGOs. The action culminated with a NGO statement against the RMGC project, especially against the open-pit mining and cyanide usage, as well as against the forced relocation. The statement was the first of its kind in post-Revolutionary Romania.

August 2002 – in response to a notice received from 20 Hungarian NGOs, the Hungarian Environment and Water Management Minister made the first step towards the activation of the Espoo Convention regarding the environmental impact in the trans-boundary context.

October 2002 – The International Financial Corporation within the World Bank Group abandoned its intention of financially supporting the project.

31 October 2002 - 14 representatives of the Roman Catholic, Unitarian and Calvin Churches made public that they would not sell any property – church or land – to RMGC.

1 December 2002 – 40 of the most eminent Romanian archaeologists and historians send an open letter to the Romanian president, stating why it is so important to save Roșia Montană and how the mining project would destroy this unique site.

5 December 2002 – during its General Assembly, ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) presented a resolution against the mining project, showing the destructive impact of the project upon the Roman mining galleries in Roșia Montană. ICOMOS reaffirmed its position on the occasion of every General Assembly they held until 2008.

4 March 2003 – The Romanian Academy had asked all the Romanian authorities taking part in the project to put an end to it, on the grounds of the environmental, geological, historical, economical and archaeological conclusions. Through the numerous declarations they made along the time and up until present times, the Romanian Academy has always opposed the mining project.

16 September 2003 - Greenpeace Hungary organized a demonstration during which they asked the Environment Minister to exercise the rights stipulated within the Espoo Convention. The convention refers to the fact that if project that could have an trans-boundary impact, the neighbor states should also be consulted.

18 September 2003 – during a conference held in Cluj-Napoca, the representatives of the orthodox, unitarian, Greek-catholic, roman-catholic churches made a joint statement according to which they would never sell the church properties and that they have the responsibility to support the local community in the fight against the RMGC project.

6-11 October 2003 - Roșia Montană Solidarity March. Over 100 participants that have gone from Cluj-Napoca to Bucharest by feet organized a public meeting in which they expressed their disagreement towards the RMGC project and, at the same time, their solidarity with the locals who do not want to relocate.

7 - 9 November 2003 – during its General Assembly, The European Federation of Green Parties elaborated a resolution against the RMGC project.

9 November 2003 - Alburnus Maior together with 15 NGOs organized a night watch in front of the Orthodox Metropolis in Bucharest, in order to encourage the Romanian Orthodox Church to take a stand regarding the destiny of the churches and cemeteries in Roșia Montană. Approximately 250 people took part at this event and it was the first of its kind in the Post-Revolutionary Romania. Two days after, the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church announced that they are against the destruction that the RMGC project could cause upon Roșia Montană and that its properties in Roșia Montană are not for sale.

10 December 2003 - Alburnus Maior was awarded the Civil Society Award for the most active non-governmental Romanian organization in the public participation and civic behavior areas.

15 January 2004 The Ministry of Culture released an archaeological excavation certificate for the

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archaeological heritage in the Cârnic Massive.

12 March 2004 Miklos Persányi, the Hungarian Environment Minister, demanded for urgent explanations from the part of the Romanian authorities regarding the RMGC project and signed the violation of the Espoo Convention by Romania.

28 martie 2004 – The Environmental Protection Agency of Alba County has stopped the procedure for release of the environmental permit for RMGC for the forging campaign in 2004 in Roșia Montană.

21 May 2004 – Alburnus Maior received the Ecological University in Bucharest for its activity regarding the protection and conservation of the natural and cultural environment in Roșia Montană.

27 June 2004 - The Romanian Ecological Party took a stand with respect to the RMGC project, describing it as “killing” and emphasizing the danger of cyanide usage in the mining industry.

28 June 2004 - Roșia Montană Gold Corporation sues Alburnus Maior in order to put an end the publishing of the www.rosiamontana.org website, violating the following following rights stipulated in the APC Internet Rights Charter: the right to share, the right to freedom of expression and to access to knowledge, the right to freedom of information, the right to engage in online protests.

14 July 2004 - 322 and professors from the Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies sent an open letter to the Romanian Government in which they reinforce their position towards the RMGC project, project that is not in the best interest of the Romanian State and nor in the best interest of the local people from Roșia Montană.

23 July – 3 August 2004, GreenPeace has organized the “Save Roșia Montană” informative tour in order to inform the population on the mining project and its impact. On this occasion 27.000 signatures were raised and sent to Adrian Năstase, Romanian Prime-Minister at that time.

23-28 August 2004 – the second edition of the Roșia Montană Solidarity March takes place, this time from Cluj-Napoca to Roșia Montană, crossing the Arieșului Valley

29 August 2004 – FânFest Protest Concert takes place in Roșia Montană. This first event gathered over 4000 participants on the Jig-Văidoaia plateau, situated above Roșia Montană

Octombrie 2004 – Alburnus Maior Association, in partnership Romanian and foreign NGOs published the report on the risks involved by the Roșia Montană project: “Anticipating surprise – Assessing risks; Investors Guide to Gabriel Resources Roșia Montană Mine Proposal ”

16 November 2004 - activists from Romania, Hungary, Germany and Austria organized a protest demonstration against the Roșia Montană mining project. On this occasion they handed in 350.000 petitions asking the prime-minister back then, Adrian Năstase, to take precise measures in order to put an end to RMGC's activities.

20 January 2005 – in response to Alburnus Maior demand for an urgent decision, Alba Iulia Courthouse suspended the execution of the archaeological excavation certificate for the Cârnic Massive that was included in the mining exploitation project.

31 January 2005 – European Parliament adopted a resolution regarding Romania's progress towards EU adhesion. “The mining project in Roșia Montană poses a significant risk to the environment of the entire region” , the European Parliament declared.

17 februarie 2005 – A committee made of professors from the Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies made an analysis of the Roșia Montană project history, identifying its weak points, that would prove mismatches and corruption related to RMGC mining project.

5 March 2005 – Applying the stipulations of the Espoo Convention, the Hungarian Minister of Environment and Water Management addresses to his Romanian homologue 60 demands as part of the environment evaluation impact procedure for the Roșia Montană mining project proposed by Gabriel Resources.

March 2005 – Cârnic Massice in Roșia Montană was nominalized in the 2005 List of Sacred Sites that are on the verge of extinction, a list that was organized by the Sacred Sites International Foundation (SSIF) together

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with a committee formed of academicians and cultural experts.

18 April 2005 – The Goldman Environmental Prize – an international renowned award - is awarded to Stephanie Roth, 34 years old, Roșia Montană, Romania – ex chief-editor of The Ecologist Magazine. Annually, the famous Goldman Environmental award honors local ecologists from six geographical regions. Roth was the expulsive force of the “Save Roșia Montană” campaign, international campaign headed against the biggest outcast mine in Europe.

14 May 2005 – The first flash mob for Roșia Montană takes place in Cluj-Napoca. Its message, addressed to the Environment Minister Sulфина Barbu was “Leave the beards! Roșia Montană is not for sale” (word play: in Romanian, “Barbu: is very close to the word we use for a “beard”)

19 June 2005 – 30 NGOs and European Parliamentarians subscribed to an appeal addressed to the Environment Minister, the President of the European Parliament and to the European Commission. This petition gave details regarding the severe mismatches that were identified during the stage of defining the domain of the environmental impact evaluation procedure for the Roșia Montană mining project.

20 June 2005 – Alba Iulia Courthouse passed an unprecedented sentence in which they annul the grant of archaeological discharge certificate no. 4/2004 released by the Ministry of Culture and Cults for the Cărnic Massive in Roșia Montană. As a consequence, the unique Roman and pre-Roman galleries from the Cărnic Massive, as well as the Massive, are again protected.

15 June 2005 - Alba Iulia Courthouse admitted a suspension request of the urbanism certificate released for Roșia Montană Gold Corporation, a necessary step in the mining project authorization procedure.

26-28 august 2005 – Fânfest - second edition - in Roșia Montană, got the popularity of a festival that promotes Roșia Montană values and resources, to Gabriel Resources mining project's detriment. In three days, the festival gathered 8.000 Romanians and foreign people.

18 December 2005 – Gabriel Resources tried to buy support from the NGOs for a Socio-Economical Plan that would become part of the environment impact study for the gold extraction project in Roșia Montană.

9 februarie 2006 – 400 people participated in Cluj-Napoca at the film premiere of the documentary New Eldorado directed by the Hungarian director Tibor Kocsis. The documentary, that was awarded many prizes at festivals all over the world, tells the story of the local people in Roșia Montană, locals whose lives are caught in this struggle for gold.

14 martie 2006 – Approximately 700 representatives of 240 environmental protection organizations from Hungary sent an open letter to the Romanian Environment Minister, expressing their disagreement towards the mining project in Roșia Montană. At the same time, members of the European Parliament re-express their concern regarding the opening of the controversial gold mine in Roșia Montană.

19 martie 2006 – The MindBomb Campaign for Roșia Montană raised the question of environment pollution in relation to the state and local administrations unprecedented corruption. 12.000 posters were posted on the streets of Cluj, Bucharest, Constanța, Timișoara, Arad, Bistrița, Sibiu, Alba Iulia, Deva, Baia Mare, Oradea, Târgu Mureș, Sighișoara, Petroșani, Valea Arieșului, Abrud, Câmpeni and Roșia Montană.

11 June 2006 – During the Transylvania International Film Festival Gala, Vanessa Redgrave dedicated the award she received for her entire career, to the “Save Roșia Montană” campaign, especially to the Alburnus Maior Association. Her gesture came in response to the fact that Gabriel Resources was among TIFFF sponsors.

10 iulie 2006 – The environment impact evaluation procedure for Roșia Montană was contested through a protest that was organized in front of the Environment Ministry headquarters.

July-August 2006 – The public consultations regarding the environment impact study have been criticized by opinion leaders, experts and public that affirmed that these created a propagandistic parade organized by and for the project initiators.

22 December 2006 – During a meeting with the Hungarian environment NGOs that took place in Târgu Mureș,

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Markó Béla, president of the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania, declared himself against the Roșia Montană project.

19 February 2007 – Alburnus Maior published the “Report regarding the public participation and the access to information within the EIE Roșia Montană”. The report that was sent to the Aarhus Compliance Committee demonstrates the violation of the public's rights to access to environment information and to take part to the decisional process of EEI Roșia Montană, rights that are fundamental to the Aarhus Convention.

22 February 2007 – The Architects Order of Romania (AOR) demand the Minister of Culture to initiate the process of including the Roșia Montană site in the World Heritage List.

7 June 2007 - “Romanian without cyanide” Coalition officially initiates a complex information and public participation campaign for the citizens regarding the legislative proposition from Romania's Parliament of banning cyanide usage in mining, a legislative proposition initiated by Senators Peter Eckstein-Kovacs and Gheorghe Funar.

21 June 2007 - ICOMOS addressed an open letter to the Romanian Government and to the Prime Minister in which they demanded the immediate ceasing of the Roșia Montană project.

7 July 2007 – The open letter of the OPUS Architecture Workshop that edited the Cultural Heritage Management Plan for Roșia Montană drew once more the Environment Minister's attention regarding the forging of this documentation related to its inclusion in the Roșia Montană Environmental Impact Assessment

21 July 2007 – Cluj Courthouse admitted the annulment demand of the urbanism certificate no. 78/ 26.04.2006 released by the Alba County Council to Roșia Montană Gold Corporation that allowed them to continue the assessment of the environmental impact procedure

24-26 August 2007 – The forth edition of FânFest took place in Roșia Montană, now becoming the biggest environmental festival in Romania

28 August 2007 – A new cyanide spill occurred into the waters near Baia Sprie, Maramureș County.

12 September 2007 – Environment Mnister Attila Korodi suspended the EIM procedure for Roșia Montană project for an unlimited period of time.

9 October 2007 – “Architecture – Restoration – Archeology” NGO (ARA) stated that no less than 120 houses were being demolished. These actions were led by the project holder, as all the buildings for which the demolishing authorization was released were placed in the protection area of some historical classified monuments.

27 November 2007 – Cârnic Massive is saved! Legal precedent in the protection of cultural heritage domain is gained. The archaeological excavation certificate no. 5/2004 is annulled through a definitive and irrevocable sentence.

23 January 2008 – Justice for Roșia Montană! Alba Iulia House of Justice decides that the urbanism plans for Roșia Montană are illegal.

12 February 2008 – The civil society support the Environment Minister in the RMGC action against the Environment Ministry.

5 May 2008 – The Senate voted for a legislative project that would allow Roșia Montană to become an archaeological and natural reservation, by giving birth to the Reservation Administration Department, in order to ensure the protection, conservation and the restoration of the region. This project was later rejected by the Chamber of Deputies.

10 July 2008 – in response to the proposition made by the Romanian delegation, The International Union of Architects adopts a resolution in which they demand the salvation of Roșia Montană,

10 September 2008 – The first hostel in Roșia Montană is inaugurated - “La Grubăr” . The second one, that belongs to Eugen David, followed it, one year later.

25 November 2008 ICOMOS demanded for the urgent intervention of the national authorities in order to



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ensure the right protection of the Roșia Montană sit.

19 March 2009 – Timișoara Court of Justice decided that the Urbanism Certificate no. 105/2007 is rightfully suspended.

8 July 2009 – The Romanian Academy strengthened its position regarding RMGC project; the President of the Academy declared that the “project is a stupidity, a big mistake, if not a crime”

29 October 2009 – Gabriel fake and manipulative publicity was again brought to the attention of The National Audiovisual Council of Romania

22 Decembrie 2009 – The questioning of the Minister of Economy, Trade and Business Environment, Adriean Videanu, started with the apparition, in the same chamber, of the protesters that revealed a banner that said “Roșia Montană is not for Vi(N)deanu” (word play, in Romanian Videanu is very close to the word meaning “selling”). This protest came in response to the declarations he made related to the inclusion of the RMGC project in the governmental project.

19 January 2010 – 70 environment protection NGOs adopted a joint statement in which they criticized the inclusion in the government program of the much-debated Roșia Montană mining project and also the recent public stands of several political figures regarding this subject.

18 February 2010 - The Minister of Culture and National Heritage declared, through the personal assistant of the Minister Kelemen Hunor, that they initiated the procedure necessary for the Roșia Montană inclusion on the UNESCO world heritage list.

25 April 2010 – “Ready to fight for Roșia Montană: Let’s give Videanu the tomato!” The Minister for Economy, Adriean Videanu, was executed by a platoon formed of tomato throwers because he defended the interests of the Canadian company Gold Corporation. The protests took place simultaneously in Bucharest, Cluj, Constanța and Ploiești.

04 May 2010 - European Parliament Deputies voted with 488 votes for, 48 against and 57 withholds, for a resolution that asked for the general prohibition of the mining technologies based on cyanide in Europe, by the end of 2011.

15 May 2010 - Ad Astra Association, ran by Romanian scientists, publicly manifested its disagreement towards the gold exploitation in Roșia Montană by RMGC.

May-July 2010 – Several protest actions take place against RMGC organized in Bucharest by several organizations: București, Re.Generation, Salvați Bucureștiul, Agenția de Monitorizare a Presei, Miliția Spirituală, EcoCivica, Salvați Dunărea și Delta, Noii Golani, Heritage and R.P.E.R. and more.

13-15 August 2010 FânFest now reached its fifth edition that was especially dedicated to its participants, but also to the proposal of nominating Roșia Montană as an UNESCO site. Unlike its other editions, FânFest took place in the center of Roșia Montană. At the same time a photo petition was launched that underlined the public support received by the initiative of including Roșia Montană historical minining site to the UNESCO World Heritage list.

7 September 2010 106 NGOs, together with 10 Right Livelihood Award laureates demanded the European Commissioner for the Environment, Mr. Janez Potocnik, to take measures according to the vote expressed by the European Parliament regarding the complete banning of cyanide usage in mining in the European Union, by the end of 2011.

September - November 2010 Protest actions took place in front of the Culture Minister against the National Commission decision relative to the debate of a new request for an archaeological excavation of the Cărnicea Massve in Roșia Montană.

04 January 2011 – Through a joint statement, Pro Patrimonio, ICOMOS Romania and the Romanian Academy demanded the Culture and National Heritage Minister to take immediate actions in order to save the historical mining site at Roșia Montană, an invaluable asset of the world heritage that was on the verge of extinction if

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the mining project proposed by Roșia Montană Gold Corporation was authorized by the Romanian state.

20 January 2011 – “Mr. Hunor, Romanians want Roșia Montană in UNESCO!” During a manifestation that took place in front of the Culture and National Heritage Ministry, 300 Romanians all over the country asked Minister Kelemen Hunor to add Roșia Montană on the on the list with Romania's suggestions for UNESCO.

12 July 2011 – Based on RAC (Romanian Audiovisual Council), Culture Ministry and the Direction for Culture and National Department of Alba County released a new archaeological excavation certificate for the Cărnic Massve. The press release included false and absurd declarations, that stated that the excavation was actually a prime step towards the conservation of the area.

July 2011 – “Come to Hunoriadă!” This impulse was spread during a series of protests that took place in Bucharest, Cluj, Sibiu and Iași that asked the Culture Minister to resign, as instead of protecting the heritage, he is defending the interest of a mining company.

08 August 2011 – The joint statement of 77 Hungarian NGOs from Transylvania, regarding Roșia Montană and Kelemen Hunor's attitude towards it.

12-14 august 2011 - "FânFest 2011" Weekend brought in Roșia Montană over 1.500 visitors that enjoyed the numerous activities, concerts and guided tours.

21-30 September 2011 – International Reclaim the Fields Camp – Several hundred activists from all over Europe and Romania participated in unprecedented solidarity camp in Rosia Montana.

7 November 2011 – Occupy Conti for Rosia Montana - 6 Save Rosia Montana activists occupy for 7 hours the former building of a hotel in the central square of Cluj Napoca in order to stop misinformation and manipulation regarding the mining project of Rosia Montana Gold Corporation.

7-11 November 2011 – Several flash mobs organized across Romania in solidarity with Occupy Conti and Save Rosia Montana Campaign (Bucharest, Cluj Napoca, Timisoara, Tg Mures, Brasov): Free hugs for Rosia Montana, Occupy the National Television, Occupy your body with cyanide. Mass ‘suicide’, Country, country we want men-at-arms. Hundreds of people join the actions.

24 November 2011 – During an action, 200 citizens submit to the Chamber of Deputies 100.000 signatures against the project proposal to modify the actual Mining Law, proposal that would have given private mining companies the right to expropriate land owners in the name of the state.

1 December 2011 – We stand United for Rosia Montana! – Save Rosia Montana Campaign’s message was brought among Romanians through tens of flags and banners during the National Day celebrations in Alba Iulia and Bucharest. Solidarity actions were organized in front of the Romanian Embassies in Chisinau (Moldova), Wien (Austria) and Budapest (Hungary).

9 December 2011 – SRM Campaign expresses its critical observations towards the “Social Liberal Union’s Vision on environment”. USL was the political party in opposition which integrated the Rosia Montana case in their political plans for the government.

12 December 2011 – Action at the Ministry for Administration and Interns – 20 activists gave off in front of the building several “dangerous” objects they used in committing actions in support of Save Rosia Montana Campaign: a pen that signed a petition, a brush that painted a banner, a mouse that clicked for Rosia Montana etc. The activists expressed their disagreement to the Police repressive actions whenever a Save Rosia Montana Campaign protest happens.

January 2012 – Protests against austerity measures burst all over Romania. Save Rosia Montana campaign was from the first day of actions present in the street claiming its demands.

28 January 2012 – 500 people all over Romania gathered in Bucharest, near the Ministry of Environment, in one of the most important street action in the past years. They protested against the imminent decision of the minister to give the environmental permit to the mining project. The protest continued in a march to University Square, the zero kilometer of the protests still taking place in Bucharest.

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6 february 2012 – 1881 of historical attestation of Rosia Montana mining settlement celebrated in 9 towns in Romania and abroad. The event hosted documentaries on mining and its impact around the world, presentations and debates and concerts.

16 february 2012 – 11 for Romania – The first Yes Men action in Romania for Save Rosia Montana Campaign. Activists pretending to be the mining company went to negotiations with the Football Romanian Federation that asked to be sponsored by Rosia Montana Gold Corporation. FRF was committed to do anything that the “mining company” would say.

23 february 2012 – After 3 years, the locals from Rosia Montana and the representatives of the Campaign are present in an open debate in prime time at the National Television together with representatives of the Ministry of Culture and of Environment and the mining company. The televised debate was gained after continuous pressure of the campaign and its supporters: petitions, telephones, protests, boycott.

28 February 2012 – During the televised debate, the state secretary in the Ministry of Environment publicly expressed its position in favor of the mining project and makes scandalous mistakes regarding the evaluation of the project and its impact. Save Rosia Montana Campaign together with 100 NGOs and public personalities ask the Prime-minister to relegate the state secretary immediately.

1 March 2012 – Several supporters reveal in the 60 minute of a football match the message “Romanian Football Federation = Rosia Montana Gold Corporation = the same misery” in support of the 11 for Romania action. 50 policemen and private guards intervene in force to kick out the supporters.

7 March 2012 – 150 people ask in front of the Ministry of Environment the resignation of the state secretary in the ministry after being in favor of the mining project during the Rosia Montana televised debate on the national Television. “Chemical Anton” or “Cyanide is a poison, not an aliment”. “Anton loves cyanide/He is paid by the dictatorship” are some of the protest messages.

10 March 2012 – Supporters of the national rugby team drop 2 banners in solidarity with Save Rosia Montana: “Stop destroying Rosia Montana, Stop to corruption” and “Save Rosia Montana”.

15 March 2012 – 6 Save Rosia Montana activists set up quarantine in the Ministry of Environment in order to isolate the focal spot of corruption, incompetence and propaganda inoculated by the mining company at very high level in ministry. They blocked the main entrance in the building for almost 2 hours. 2 other spontaneous actions took place in front of the ministry in the same day in solidarity with the “quarantine”.

5 April 2012 – SRM Campaign makes public the decision of the Alba Iulia Appeal Court to annul irrevocably the urban plans of Rosia Montana that declared since 2002 the area of Rosia Montana as mono industrial and not permitting the locals other economical activities except for mining.

6 April 2012 – After the resignation of the Ministry of Environment, SRM Campaign addresses an open letter to the prime minister and interim at the ministry containing the updates regarding Rosia Montana case.

12 April 2012 – In the night of April, 11th to 12th, the MindBomb group of artists, architects, journalists and writers initiated an extensive poster campaign in 43 towns around the country, launching the satiric message “Every Romanian will get a piece of gold from Rosia Montana” accompanied by the overwhelming image of a golden Kalashnikov bullet. Thousands of posters stream the streets proposing to create an autonomous and independent space for free speech.

18 April 2012 – Alburnus Maior releases a press declaration to counteract the mining company’s misleading press release on the latest urbanism plans.

3 May 2012 – Alburnus Maior announces the opening of the Tarina Pension in Rosia Montana belonging to a member family of Alburnus Maior. After the urbanism plans are annulled the locals want to show that tourism is possible in Rosia Montana.

June 2012 – Save Rosia Montana writes a letter addressing Romania’s Prime Minister to relegate the new Economy Minister and initiates a petition for his resign because of declarations in favor of the mining company.



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20 June 2012 – the Campaign releases the TV and You Tube media campaign “A man worth more than the gold he wears. So does a country”. Total views on YouTube of 625,000 until September 2012.

2 August 2012 – Release of the project “Adopt a house” in Rosia Montana: restoration of patrimony houses in Rosia Montana with the practical involvement of volunteers.

15-19 august 2012 – The 7th edition of the cultural and ecological festival in Rosia Montana – FanFest. Five days of documentary projections, peasant and handmade market, a social activism forum, music, touristic guides, banner creation, protests, recreational activities, theatre plays etc. More than 4000 people participating.

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We need to unite our struggles across Europe and worldwide into one: No more Gold Mining!
Save our land and waters!