

## Belgrade battery safety

Its assurances over safety undermined by past misbehavior, Rio Tinto has tried to counter what it dismisses as lies and disinformation spread on social media by recently disclosing preliminary ...

Thousands of people in Serbia have protested in Belgrade against plans to mine one of Europe's largest deposits of lithium - a crucial raw material for electric car batteries.

Tens of thousands of protesters have rallied in downtown Belgrade against lithium mining in Serbia. That's despite official warnings that the demonstration on Saturday was an alleged plot to topple populist President Aleksandar Vučić and his government.

Thousands hit the streets in Serbia's capital Belgrade Saturday to protest the rebooting of a controversial lithium mine set to serve as a vital source to power Europe's green energy transition.

Just a few weeks after a legal path had been cleared for the Jadar mine, the European Union signed a memorandum of understanding with Serbia's government, launching what it called a "strategic ...

Andrew Higgins is the East and Central Europe bureau chief for The Times based in Warsaw. He covers a region that stretches from the Baltic republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to Kosovo, Serbia and other parts of former Yugoslavia. More about Andrew Higgins

A man waves a flag combined of Russian and Serbian colours as he attends a protest against pollution and the exploitation of a lithium mine in the country, in Belgrade, Serbia, Saturday, Aug. 10, 2024. Thousands were gathering Saturday at a rally against lithium mining in Serbia despite government warnings of alleged planned unrest designed to topple the government of populist President Aleksandar Vucic. (AP Photo/Darko Vojinovic)

People attend a protest against pollution and the exploitation of a lithium mine in the country, in Belgrade, Serbia, Saturday, Aug. 10, 2024. Thousands were gathering Saturday at a rally against lithium mining in Serbia despite government warnings of alleged planned unrest designed to topple the government of populist President Aleksandar Vucic. (AP Photo/Darko Vojinovic)

People attend a protest against pollution and the exploitation of a lithium mine in the country, in Belgrade, Serbia, Saturday, Aug. 10, 2024. Thousands were gathering Saturday at a rally against lithium mining in Serbia despite government warnings of alleged planned unrest designed to topple the government of populist President Aleksandar Vucic. The banner reads "lithium is good only for F diagnosis". (AP Photo/Darko Vojinovic)

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Abandoned and roofless houses bought by Rio Tinto company in the village of Gornje Nedeljice, in the fertile Jadar Valley in western Serbia, Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2024. (AP Photo/Darko Vojinovic)

A sign saying "Access forbidden to unauthorized persons" is displayed in front of a house bought by Rio Tinto company in the village of Gornje Nedeljice, in the fertile Jadar Valley in western Serbia, Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2024. (AP Photo/Darko Vojinovic)

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