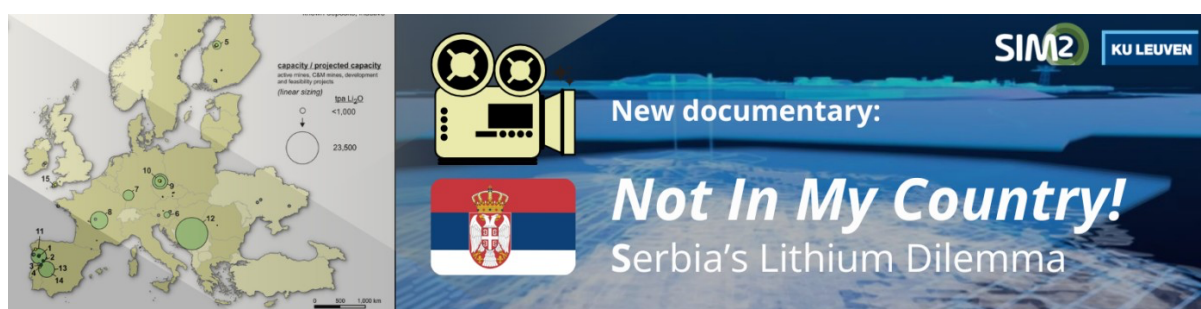**🎥 Avant-première of "Not in my country: Serbia's lithium dilemma" at IRTC25**

Watch and discuss the very first screening of the new film "Not in my country" at **IRTC25 on February 19** in Ljubljana. A documentary about Serbia's lithium dilemma, where **Peter Tom Jones**, Director of the @KU Leuven Institute for Sustainable Metals and Minerals, engages with a multitude of voices from the Jadar Valley, Belgrade, and Brussels.

In 2004, the Anglo-Australian mining giant Rio Tinto made a remarkable discovery in the fertile Jadar Valley of Western Serbia: a unique lithium-boron-silicate mineral named "jadarite". Dubbed "Serbian kryptonite", this potent mineral was hailed as a source of immense wealth for the Serbian people, promising to propel the Republic into a cleantech-based, future-proof, climate-neutral economy. What few people still remember now is that at that time Rio Tinto was still welcomed with open arms.

Fast forward to 2020: Rio Tinto's land acquisition programme began to divide the Jadar Valley villagers, sparking the birth of a local agricultural opposition movement. This quickly evolved into a diverse and determined national movement: Not In My Country! By 2022, mass demonstrations had grown so powerful that they forced the Serbian government to withdraw Rio Tinto's permits, only for the decision to be reversed two years later by Serbia's Constitutional Court. This abrupt U-turn led to a new wave of protests in Belgrade in July 2024, splitting the nation into two camps: those in favour and those against.

Featuring Ne Damo Jadar spokespersons; local citizens in the Jadar valley; University of Belgrade's Jelena Vasiljevic; Rio Tinto chief executives and experts (Marijanti Babic, Chad Blewitt, Sinead Kaufmann), ElevenES's CEO Nemanja Mikac, Serbia's Minister of Mining and Energy Dubravka Handanovic, Transport & Environment's Senior EV and battery director Julia Poliscanova; anonymous Serbian political experts.

Trailer will follow in December 2024!

Join us at IRTC25: https://irtc.info/irtc-2025/