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## U.S., Ukraine sign Strategic deal on Critical Minerals



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The United States and Ukraine have signed a significant new agreement that gives Washington preferential access to Ukraine's rich deposits of critical minerals, including lithium, titanium, and rare earth elements. The deal, signed on April 30, 2025, also establishes a Reconstruction Investment Fund that will be co-managed by both nations.

Under the terms, Ukraine will contribute 50% of future revenues from its state-owned mineral

and natural resource projects into the fund. These funds will be used to support Ukraine's rebuilding efforts and economic stabilization amid its ongoing war with Russia. In return, Ukraine will not be required to repay the \$72 billion in military and humanitarian aid it has received from the United States since 2022.

The agreement is seen as a major boost to Ukraine's economy while strengthening U.S. access to strategic resources that are vital for defense technologies, clean energy, and electronics manufacturing. Officials say the deal will also reduce the West's dependence on China for rare earth imports.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky welcomed the agreement but acknowledged it does not include any new military security guarantees. Still, he praised it as a step toward a deeper long-term partnership with the United States.

U.S. officials framed the pact as part of a broader effort to help Ukraine rebuild in the face of continued Russian aggression, while also safeguarding U.S. economic and strategic interests.

Russia sharply criticized the deal, calling it exploitative and claiming Ukraine is being used for geopolitical gain. However, Western analysts view it as a practical move toward Ukraine's financial self-reliance and integration with Western economies.

The agreement is expected to go into effect later this year, pending parliamentary ratification in

Ukraine.