

In an analysis released to BTA on Tuesday, the Bulgarian Chamber of Mining and Geology (BCMG) argues that climate change targets are attainable through comprehensive measures taken across industries and countries.

Cutting back on coal mining in Germany, Poland and Bulgaria will cause social damage and tension for which those countries are unprepared, and the local economies are not flexible enough to cope with the shock of such a move.

The BCMG will keep urging the national and EU institutions to be mindful of the complex of climate change factors and to consider the impact of restrictive decisions on the socio-economic characteristics of the mining regions and the countries.

Coal mining will continue to form the backbone of Bulgaria's energy industry through the Maritza East Mines EAD, which is in process of modernization, the analysis says.

Bulgaria's mining industry expects the slight increase in the prices of the main raw materials to continue in 2017, which will ensure the industry steady development.

The small uptick in prices on the international exchanges in 2016 applied to all metals extracted in Bulgaria: copper, gold, lead and zinc. The industry is moderately optimistic because it is developing in an environment which is hard to predict and depends heavily on many global and local political and economic factors.

*Source: Bta*