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The Open Cut

Mining, Transnational Corporations and Local Populations

LIT Verlag

Reihe: Action Anthropology/Aktionsethnologie Bd. 2, 2016, 538 S., 49.90 EUR, 49.90 CHF, br., ISBN 978-3-643-80151-7

The rapid expansion of the mineral and metal mining sector in the past decade was accompanied by an increase in social conflicts. What are the impacts of large-scale mining operations? What are the strategies used by transnational corporations to gain access to underground resources and legitimize their activities? And how do local and indigenous communities confronted with mining react to, negotiate with and resist these activities? This book covers 13 case studies of copper, gold, uranium and other mining operations, situated in Latin America, Africa, Asia, Australia and Switzerland. With an extensive introduction to the subject and a systematic comparison across mining operations in different phases of development and social contexts, it serves as a primer and reference book for activists, students and researchers alike.