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## Chinas Rare Earth Metals Monopoly: Does It Undermine U.S. Security?

By Nora Görne

GRIN Verlag. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 20 pages. Dimensions: 10.0in. x 7.0in. x 0.1in. Seminar paper from the year 2012 in the subject Politics - International Politics - Topic: Peace and Conflict Studies, Security, grade: A-, Utrecht University (Roosevelt Academy), course: Security in the Post-Cold War Era, language: English, abstract: Rare earth metals are chemical elements which are widely unknown to the general public but nevertheless can be found in everyday life. They are critical components of digital cameras, rechargeable batteries and magnets, of surgical lasers, polishing powders and military tanks. Even though their name suggests differently, they are not specifically rare but they often only exist in small deposits scattered over the globe which makes mining often fairly unprofitable. From 1986 onwards China established itself as the biggest producer of rare earth metals with by 2010 supplying 97 of world demand (Humphries, 2011, p. 13). In the past five years prices have been seen to increase tremendously and during the Senkaku boat collision incident, China imposed a trade embargo for rare earth metals against its opponent Japan. The question is to what extent China is going to use its dominant position in the...



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