



# EUROPA NEWS



BULLETIN OF THE EUROPA STUDY UNIT

<http://www.europastudyunit.org/>



JANUARY-  
FEBRUARY  
2012  
#407

## Europa 2012: Visit ....



visit MALTA



VisitFinland



VisitBritain

The official Europa 2012 season will be kicking off soon. Here are some of the designs that we have so far...

**BELGIUM** 2 stamps in a souvenir sheet Issue date 3 February 2012



**JERSEY** two out of a set of 4 stamps  
Issue date 10 January 2012



**FINLAND** two self adhesive stamps  
Issue date 7 May 2012



**ICELAND** two stamps, in regular  
and self adhesive formats  
Issue date 3 May 2012

The designs utilize "smartphone"  
tags surrounding typical Iceland  
scenes



**ÅLAND** one stamp in Europa value  
Issue date 9 May 2012



Early results indicate that the  
proposed slate of officers and  
volunteers has been ap-  
proved.

### Thank you!!!

In the next issue we will post  
results of the Best Europa  
Stamp poll, and a synopsis of  
your comments and sugges-  
tions.

**GERMANY** one stamp  
Issue date 2 May 2012



## WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

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**It's Dues time. Please send in your renewals so  
that we can keep sending you the Europa News.**





## INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FORESTS • 2011



A couple of stragglers have come to our attention.

**UKRAINE** Issue Date 20 December 2011

2v



Apparently, the Ukraine stamps were originally scheduled to be issued earlier in the year (April/May timeframe) but the issue was cancelled and an entirely new design was adopted. Below are the original proposed designs.

In your editor's humble opinion, the actual stamps are decidedly more attractive.



**ARMENIA** Issue Date 14 December 2011

2v



According to our friend at the Europa blogspot, *HayPost* (the Armenian postal administration) is claiming that these stamps were never actually issued, even though pictures of the two stamps were found on their own official website. Further adding to the confusion, the stamps (the mini-sheets and FDC as well) appeared days later on different auction websites. (I also found these stamps on delcampe, but not yet on eBay. -ed.)

### New Issue — European Conservation

**CZECH REPUBLIC** Issue Date 3 September 2011

Souvenir sheet depicting flora and fauna of Šumava National Park

The importance of the Šumava National Park and Protected Landscape Area grew in 1990 with the declaration of a biosphere reserve (part of the UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere - MAB - program) covering almost the entire Šumava region and the neighboring Bavarian Forest National Park in Germany. The biosphere reserve is located in the mountain area along the Austrian and Bavarian borders with the Czech Republic. See related issue cited in EN #402-6.





## New Issues - Norden 2012 "Life at the Coast"

Issue date 21 March 2012 for all countries....

### FINLAND



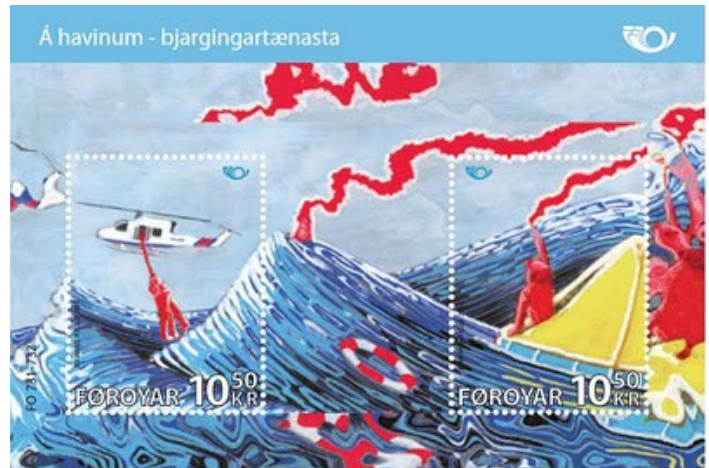
### ALAND



### ICELAND



### FAROE ISLANDS



## New Issue — Dante Alighieri

ITALY Issue date 18 November 2011

Souvenir sheet for Stamp Day depicting the Dante 700th anniversary issue of 1965



Dante (1265-1321) is considered to be an advocate of Europa. Quoting from page B-2 of the Europa HB (hardcopy version):

"This world-famous poet had political ambitions, and he strongly held that 'A Universal Monarchy or Empire, distinctly separated from the Church, was necessary for the proper government of mankind.' However, as a practical politician, Dante was a failure." He is, of course, best known for the monumental epic poem *La commedia*, later named *La divina commedia* (The Divine Comedy) by Boccaccio. It is considered by many to be the greatest literary work composed in the Italian language and is a masterpiece of world literature.



## New Issues — CIS and RCC



20th anniversary of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)

**RUSSIA** 24 November 2011

**ARMENIA** 1 December 2011



The Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) is a regional organization whose participating countries are former Soviet Republics, formed during the breakup of the Soviet Union.

See **BELARUS** in EN#406-3



20th anniversary of the foundation of Regional Commonwealth in the Field of Communication (RCC).

**ARMENIA** 1 June 2011

**BELARUS** 20 Sept 2011

**KAZAKHSTAN** 22 Sept 2011

**KYRGYZSTAN** 1 Oct 2011

**RUSSIA** 28 Nov 2011

RCC was set up on 17 December 1991 in Moscow by the Heads of Communications Administrations of CIS. RCC is an organization whose mission is to carry out cooperation between new independent states in the field of telecommunication and postal communication based on their free will, principles of mutual respect and sovereignty.



Tonny van Loij has been named the new Director of Chapters of the ATA. (Chapters are local groups - such as the Johnstown Stamp Club - whereas the ESU is a Unit.)  
Congratulations Tonny! ■

## New Issues — EurAsEC

**KAZAKHSTAN** 15 June 2011 10th anniversary of Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC)

22 September 2011 Customs Union of the Eurasian Economic Community

1v each, of almost identical design, showing the EurAsEC logo



The **Eurasian Economic Community (EAEC or EurAsEC)** originated from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) customs union between Belarus, Russia and Kazakhstan on 29 March 1996. Other states have since joined. Modeling the Schengen agreements, freedom of movement is implemented among the members (no visa requirements). Common Economic Space was launched on 1 January 2010 in emulation of the EEC.

## The Miscellaneous Box — Caroline Scannel

I obtained the postcard illustrated here through one of the ESU Auctions. I bought it because the indicia portrays Heinrich von Stephan, one of the founders of the Universal Postal Union and I have a nice collection of these items with different cancellations. The cancel for the Congress of European Union was nice, but I was putting it into another collection.

A quick search on the internet brought up an interesting website; <http://www.ena.lu/> which gave some background for this meeting. The cancel clearly reads 21-23<sup>rd</sup> August 1947. So what congress is this?



After WWII many ideas were debated to avoid another disastrous war in Europe. Europe had just recovered from the calamitous war that ended in 1918 when it was plunged into another major war; where devastation was so complete it took more than ten years for Europe to recover. This card commemorates the first Union of European Federalists Congress held in Montreux, Switzerland to discuss and debate ideas that would reduce the sovereignty of the various European nations in favor of a federation. 16 Countries were represented along with about 40 activist groups.

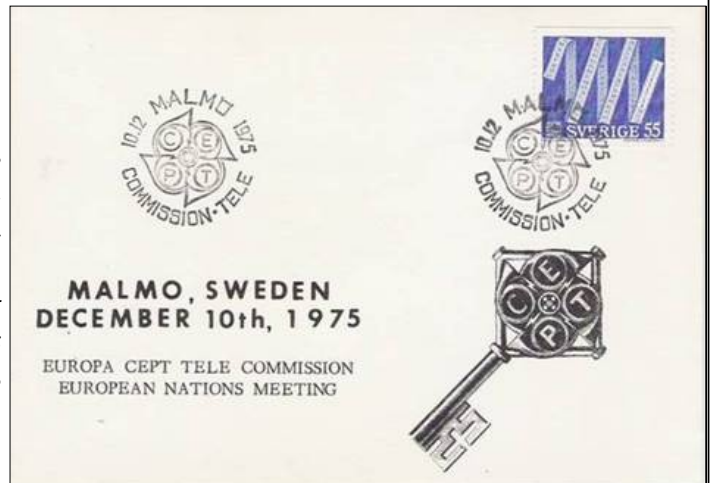
The final policy adopted by the Congress called for the creation of a European Federal Government. Less than a year later the Hague Congress was held, taking another step towards a United Europe.

Under the initiative of the Union of European Federalists (UEF) in June 1947, the French Federalist Parliamentary Group was formed, followed by similar groups in Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Belgium and the Netherlands.

You never know what gems are lurking in these auctions (D'Urso C-22, rarity factor 9), or what cross-references exist. Now I have a problem; as with many items in my various collections, should this go into the one for European Unity or Postal Unity? Hey Don, do you have another one?. (*I should have bid higher.* -ed.) ■

By the way, does anyone have any information about a CEPT meeting that took place in Malmo, Sweden on 10 December 1975? I have a cover.

(*The stamp is the 1975 Sweden issue to commemorate the centennial of the International Metric Convention — Scott# 1121, Michel# 703 — so it is not Europa. The cancellation is another story, of course. It is not listed in D'Urso for the simple reason that D'Urso was out of print by then. The European Communications Office called this a CEPT Extraordinary Commission Télécommunications meeting. Can anyone shed some more light on this meeting; e.g., what was discussed/decided? -ed.*) ■





## The 1956 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster (Part 2)

Buried in the computer files that Steve Luster gave to me was a series of monographs detailing what he had, or knew of, regarding the early Europa issues. What follows is the second excerpt from his monograph on the 1956 Europa issue.

In the first excerpt, Steve described the genesis of the common Europa stamp and its design, and then explored the variations in that design, starting with the color varieties of the French issue. The discussion below resumes the dissection of design details.

The monograph then proceeds into examples of covers, maximum cards and cancellations. Figure numbers are those from the original monograph. Future installments will address the stamps from the other countries comprising the "Inner Six."

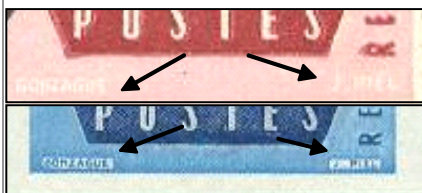


Figure 18. Examples of the designer and engraver names on France's 15f and 30f stamps.

Figure 18 shows the differences between the designer and engraver names on the 15f (upper) and 30f (lower) values. As mentioned before, this is due to differences in their production methods. The 15f stamp was produced by rotogravure while the 30f stamp was produced by recess printing. Note how much clearer the names are on the 30f value.

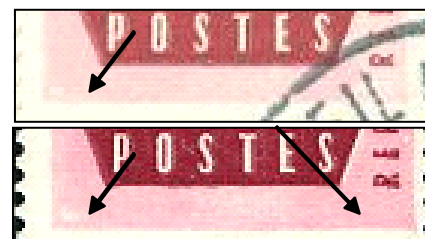


Figure 19. Examples of the 15f value with the designer name mostly missing and the engraver's name completely missing.

Another variety on the 15f stamp, also has to do with the designer and engraver names. On some stamps, the designer name is completely or mostly missing. On other stamps the designer and engraver names are mostly or completely missing. Likely this has to do with plate wear and the "filling-in" of the names. This variety is listed as D'Urso number 3H. Examples are at figure 19.



Figure 20. Range of colors seen on the 15f value. <sup>4</sup> & <sup>6</sup>

Another D'Urso-listed variety (#3HA), has to do with the color of the 15f stamp. D'Urso writes about a "very pale rose impression." While this can be seen in the stamp to the left of figure 20, it needs also to be mentioned that the colors I have seen on the 15f stamp, range from very pale to very vivid, as shown.



Figure 20a. Thick (variety) and thin numerals "15." <sup>6</sup>

## The 1956 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster (Part 2— cont'd)

A final variety, this one on the 30f stamp, is listed in the D'Urso Catalogue 7 as number 4G. In this variety, the second piece of scaffolding, on the outside, bottom-right side of the design is broken. See figure 21. The illustration on the right, from the D'Urso Catalogue, shows a more pronounced variety, while the stamp in color to the left, shows a partial "missing scaffolding" variety.

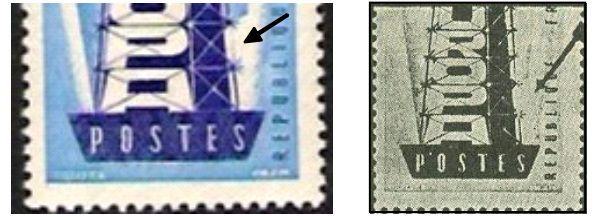


Figure 21. Broken scaffold variety on the 30f value of France's 1956 Europa set.

There are additional philatelic items for the 1956 French Europa set. They are first day covers (FDCs) with a Paris cancel, FDCs with a Council of Europe-Strasbourg cancel, maximum cards, with first day Paris and Council of Europe-Strasbourg cancels and a maximum card with the first day cancel "Fêtes Internationales de la Vigne" (International Wine Festival) from Dijon. Covers with these cancels are all shown in the monograph.

While there are many first day covers for the issue, two with stand out. On the left at figure 22 is a sailing ship with its sails as flags, in the colors and designs of the six ECSC countries. This cachet is based on the winning entry by Dutch artist Reyn Dirksen, in a Marshall Plan poster art contest in 1951. At the right is the French allegorical figure "Marianne" holding "Europa" in her hands.



Figure 22. Two different first day cover cachets and cancels. The upper set has the Paris first day cancel while the lower set has the Council of Europe - Strasbourg first day cancel. <sup>6</sup>

The D'Urso Catalogue lists FDCs with the Paris cancel as numbers 3/4I. The way that number appears in the catalogue might imply that a "true" first day cover is one franked with both values of the set. Is it possible that D'Urso meant a cover like the ones in the upper-left of figure 22? I think not! To my mind, a FDC is one franked with either or both values of the set. The Paris cancel is also listed in the "cancellations" section of the catalogue as number T-18. The Council of Europe cancel is listed in the D'Urso Catalogue as Type IX.



## The 1956 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster (Part 2— cont'd)

Figure 23 shows two other cachet designs on first day covers. Each cover is franked with both values of the 1956 French Europa set.

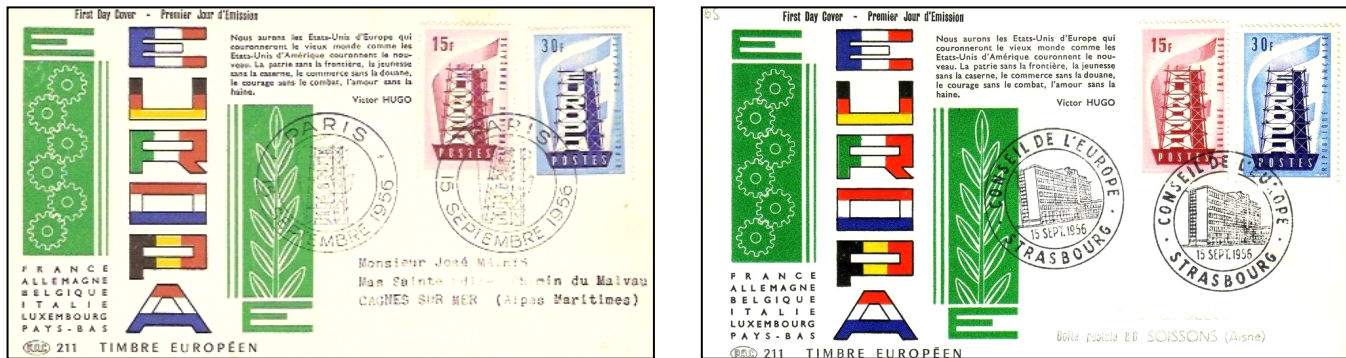


Figure 23. Two first day covers with the same cachets. The one on the left bears the Paris first day cancel while the one on the right bears the Council of Europe - Strasbourg first day cancel. <sup>6</sup>

The cacheted covers at figure 24 are franked with both values of the 1956 French Europa set, tied by the Paris and Council of Europe - Strasbourg first day cancels. The cover on the left is addressed to Walter H. Seiger, a well-known German stamp dealer. Both cachets were designed by Daniel Gonzague.

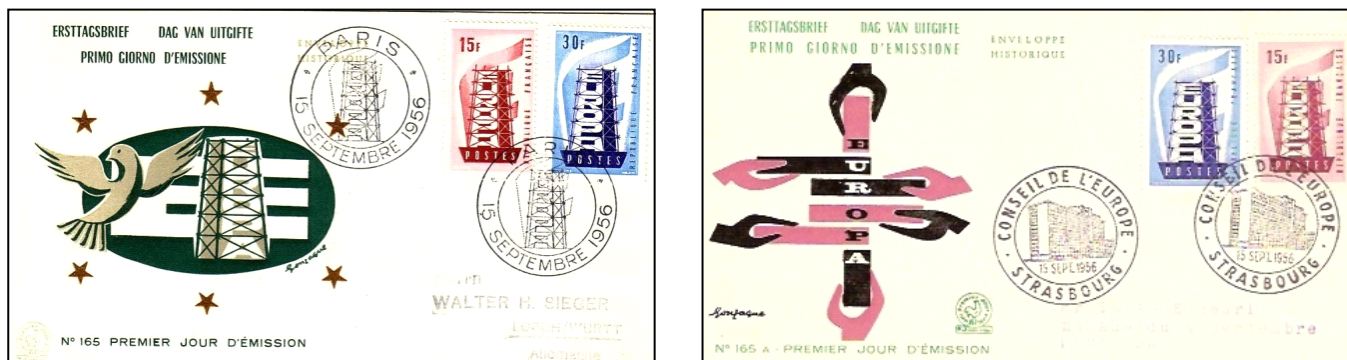


Figure 24. Cacheted first day covers. <sup>6</sup>

According to the D'Urso Catalogue, <sup>7</sup> the two different types of first day cancels were also applied to maximum cards. As with first day covers, the maximum cards are not illustrated in the catalogue so I cannot be sure which card design, if any, was referred to by D'Urso. Figure 25 illustrates French 1956 Europa stamps on two different maximum card designs.

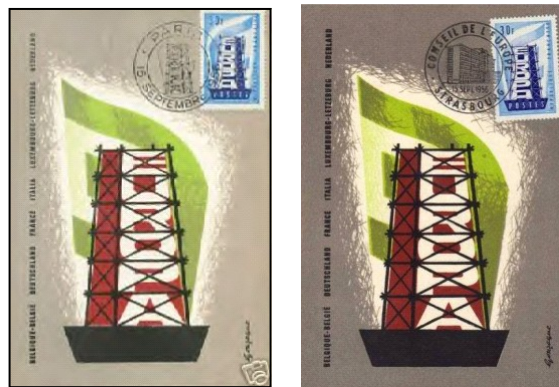


Figure 25. Two maximum cards, with first day cancels from either Paris or the Council of Europe - Strasbourg. The cards were designed by Daniel Gonzague. <sup>6 & 8</sup>



## The 1956 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster (Part 2— cont'd)

Each of the maximum cards depicted on the previous page can be found with either the Paris or the Council of Europe - Strasbourg first day cancel. Also, because some of the same card designs show up franked with the Europa stamps of other ECSC countries, I believe that they were made in sets and it is possible to collect them from each of the ECSC countries. I admit that I never tried to do that, and I have never seen a complete set... however, I am prepared to acknowledge that they must exist.

The maximum card at figure 26 was seen on the Internet. It bears the 30f value of France's 1956 Europa set and the Paris first day cancel. The design on the card at the right is also based on a poster that was submitted for the Marshall Plan poster art contest.



Figure 26. Maximum card franked with the 30f value of France's 1956 Europa set. Paris cancel. <sup>6</sup>



Figure 27. Maximum card franked with the 30f value of France's 1956 Europa set. C of E cancel. <sup>6</sup>

Shown at figure 28 is a set of different maximum cards, both with Paris first day cancels.



Figure 28. Set of two maximum cards, each franked with a different value of France's 1956 Europa set. <sup>6</sup>

## The 1956 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster (Part 2— cont'd)

What follows at figure 28, are sets of the maximum cards whose designs are shown on the previous page. Each card is franked with a different value of France's 1956 Europa set. Each set of cards shows the Paris and the Council of Europe - Strasbourg first day cancel.



Figure 28. Here sets of maximum cards with France's 1956 Europa stamps and official first day cancels.

I have come across one of the Gonzague-designed maximum cards bearing his autograph. See figure 295 and a autographed similar card in the Belgium section of this monograph.

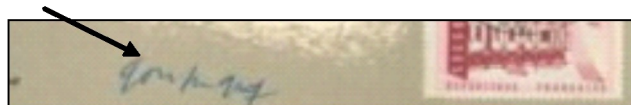


Figure 29. Gonzague autograph on maximum card.  
This card is of the same design as the cards to the left in figure 28.

D'Urso mentions another first day cancel on a maximum card. It is assigned the catalogue number of 3/4N. This one commemorates the "Fêtes Internationales de la Vigne," (i.e., an international wine festival). No mention was made in D'Urso of this cancel being on a cacheted cover - but here it is - but with a bit different language than that reported by D'Urso.

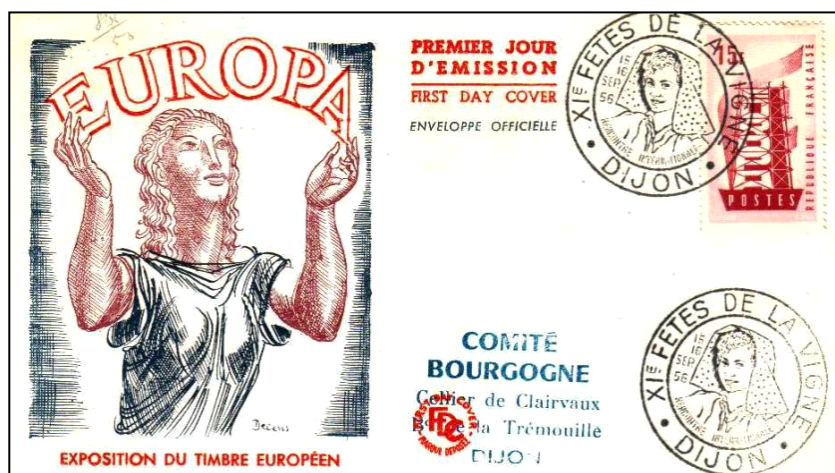


Figure 30. The IX Fêtes De La Vigne - Dijon special first day cancel. The cover is franked with the 15f value of France's 1956 Europa set.

I have come across other first day covers, not listed in the D'Urso Catalogue. Two of them are illustrated at figures 31 and 32 (next page). Stamp collectors being what they are, there are no doubt other first day covers waiting to be discovered and documented. Figure 31 shows an addressed cover franked with both values of France's 1956 Europa set. Other than the boxed etiquette "Premier jour/d'émission," in red, there is no other cachet on the envelope. However, it does bear two strikes of the Council of Europe official first day cancel. The cover at figure 32 bears a cancel dated September 15, 1956, the first day of issue of the 1956 Europa stamps. This stamp was canceled at the European Fair, held annually in Strasbourg in September. The boxed etiquette in red at the upper left corner of the cover, appears to be the same as the one on the previous cover.



## The 1956 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster (Part 2— cont'd)



Figure 31. Uncanceled, Council of Europe - Strasbourg canceled, first day cover with "first day" etiquette.

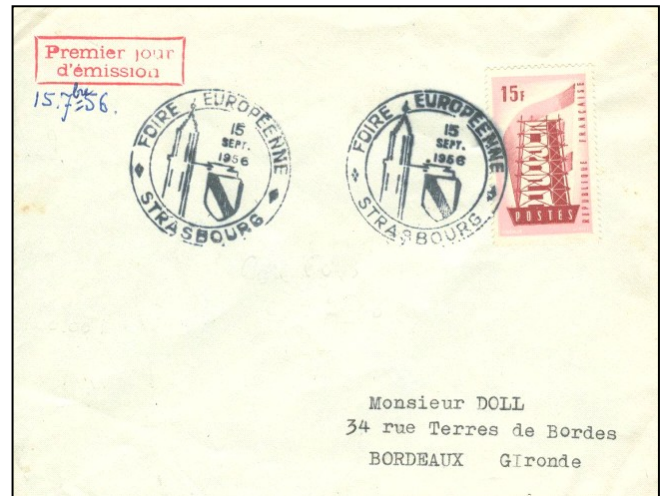


Figure 32. First day cover franked with the 15f value of France's 1956 Europa set and canceled at the Strasbourg Fair.

The cover at figure 33 is interesting to me because of its cancel. Franked with both values of the French 1956 Europa set, it was canceled at S.H.A.P.E. - Paris (The Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe).

There may be a significance to the cancel date of November 13, 1956, but if there is, I am unaware of it. I know that this or similar covers were prepared by Colonel James Devoss, now deceased. He was a S.H.A.P.E. staff officer and the former Executive Director of the American Philatelic Society. I purchased a similar cover from him many years ago.



Figure 33. Cover canceled at S.H.A.P.E. Headquarters in Paris, France.

Another interesting cover is at figure 34. The cachet was done by Daniel Gonzague, however, the cover was not canceled on the first day of issue of France's 1956 Europa stamps. Instead, the cover bears a cancel from the Council of Europe dated October 15, 1956. That date coincides with the opening day of the 2nd part of the 8th session of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe.



Figure 34. Cacheted cover franked with both values of France's 1956 Europa set and canceled at the Council of Europe.

D'Urso assigns the catalogue number CE8a to this type II Council of Europe cancel. See EN#400-22 for another example.

**PRICES REALIZED — Auction #121**

LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE
5 -	4.00	79 -	3.25	177 -	1.75
8 -	12.00	97 -	1.60	179 -	3.10
9 -	16.00	99 -	1.75	180 -	2.15
11 -	5.50	104 -	2.10	181 -	2.65
12 -	5.00	105 -	1.80	182 -	2.65
13 -	5.50	106 -	2.00	185 -	.75
16 -	12.25	107 -	2.00	188 -	2.65
17 -	15.50	108 -	3.25	194 -	3.25
18 -	11.25	110 -	3.10	195 -	17.00
19 -	1.80	118 -	5.10	202 -	3.90
22 -	.75	119 -	3.25	203 -	5.75
26 -	2.25	120 -	1.75	204 -	5.75
27 -	1.10	121 -	1.25	206 -	2.75
28 -	1.00	122 -	2.50	207 -	2.00
30 -	1.50	125 -	1.25	208 -	4.50
36 -	1.80	126 -	3.30	209 -	12.50
27 -	1.50	127 -	2.55	210 -	.80
39 -	1.75	129 -	2.25	212 -	5.50
40 -	7.00	132 -	3.75	216 -	2.00
41 -	10.00	133 -	3.75	217 -	1.50
44 -	1.00	134 -	6.25	221 -	2.00
48 -	2.10	137 -	1.75	228 -	2.75
49 -	2.25	141 -	4.00	229 -	12.00
62 -	2.60	146 -	4.25	230 -	1.50
63 -	5.05	150 -	.30	231 -	.50
65 -	5.55	151 -	2.50	233 -	2.75
67 -	1.30	153 -	2.25	235 -	1.75
68 -	9.50	154 -	3.85	239 -	3.75
69 -	2.00	155 -	1.50	242 -	.15
71 -	7.00	167 -	1.00	244 -	1.75
72 -	1.75	169 -	1.10	248 -	2.50
74 -	.30	173 -	.70	249 -	5.00
77 -	1.00	174 -	.80	250 -	4.25
78 -	.75	175 -	1.25		

**RECEIPTS**

From buyers for lots	\$392.55
From buyers for postage	\$ 19.34
Sale of Unit material	\$ 3.90
Donations	.60
	\$416.39

**EXPENDITURES**

To sellers for material	\$ 33.00
Postage to buyers	\$ 19.30
Additional postage expense	\$ 2.23
	\$355.24
<b>PROFIT</b>	<b>\$61.15</b>

The list above, plus prices realized from the last mini-auction, are also available on our website.

As is evident from Don's report, the auctions continue to be a "win-win" — for the Unit treasury and for the members. Don reports that often the items that sell the best are those where the owner felt that no one would be interested. That's the way it is in many auctions!

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AN ASSOCIATION OF PHILATELISTS  
DEVOTED TO THE STUDY OF PHILATELIC  
MATERIALS COVERING THE IDEA OF A  
UNITED EUROPE... UNITED IN A POLITICAL,  
ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL SENSE.

[www.europastudyunit.org](http://www.europastudyunit.org)

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\* Dues must be received by 31 January to ensure continued membership, including uninterrupted receipt of the EN.





## NEW ISSUES WITH SCOTT CATALOG NUMBERS - Don Smith

\* = position in proposed new HB outline (ref. ESU#404-12)

### From Linn's November Special Edition



<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>SCOTT #</u>	<u>DATE OF ISSUE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>*</u>
Andorra (French)	686	7-May-11	Europa 2011	1
Czech Republic	3499	4-May-11	Europa 2011	1
Iceland	1230-3	17-Mar-11	Europa 2011 (1232-3 are self-adhesive)	1
Iceland	1244a-b	15-Sep-11	SEPAC (se-tenant pair)	1c
Iceland	1245	15-Sep-11	Fishing Boat, joint issue with Malta 1438	3b
Kosovo	155-156	9-Sep-10	8 <sup>TH</sup> Corridor of Integration (1v+ss) see pg 14	3b
Liechtenstein	1522	9-Sep-11	Art (Fruit), joint issue with Switzerland	3b
Liechtenstein	1526	8-Sep-11	SEPAC	1c
Lithuania	917-18	8-May-10	Europa 2010	1
Lithuania	932	2-Jan-11	37 <sup>th</sup> Men's European Basketball Championships	3c
Lithuania	938-9	23-Apr-11	Europa 2011	1
Luxembourg	1312-13	17-May-11	Europa 2011	1
Macedonia	476	6-May-09	Europa 2009 (s/s, Linn's says 2 more in set)	1
Macedonia	529	26-Aug-10	Mother Teresa, joint issue with Albania, Kosovo	3b
Macedonia	562-3	4-May-11	Macedonia in the EU, European Capitals	2a
Macedonia	564-6	5-May-11	Europa 2011 (566 a souvenir sheet)	1
Malta	1438	15-Sep-11	Fishing Boat, joint issue with Iceland 1245	3b
Moldova	713-14	7-May-11	Europa 2011	1

### From Linn's December Special Edition

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>SCOTT #</u>	<u>DATE OF ISSUE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>*</u>
Austria	2336	8-Sep-11	Europa 2011 (Envelope containing seeds, with Perforated, removable, stamp)	1
Azerbaijan	950	25-May-11	Musical instruments, joint issue with Belarus	3b
Belarus	766-7	14-Apr-11	Europa 2011 (767a: sheetlet of 3 each)	1
Belarus	770	25-May-11	Musical instruments, joint issue with Azerbaijan	3b
Belarus	771	1-Jun-11	Capitals, joint issue with Armenia	3b
Bosnia (Croat)	248	5-Apr-11	Europa 2011	1
Bosnia (Serb)	417	6-Apr-11	Europa 2011 (sheetlet of 6)	1
Bosnia (Serb)	424	7-Jun-11	European Kayak & Canoe Championships	3c
Bulgaria	4567-8	28-Apr-11	Europa 2011 (4568a, s/s with both stamps)	1
	4569-70	28-Apr-11	Europa 2011 4570a, booklet of 2 each)	1
Czech Republic	3506	15-Jun-11	Europa Cup of European Florists	3a
Denmark	1529-31	4-May-11	Europa 2011 (1531a: booklet pane of 12	1
Estonia	678	20-Jul-11	European Junior Track & Field Championships	3c
Germany	2638	15-Sep-11	UNESCO site, joint with Romania	3a
Luxembourg	1323	27-Sep-11	SEPAC 2011	1c
Norway	1650-1	10-Jun-11	Europa 2011	1
Vatican City	1482	13-Sep-11	Rudjer Boskovic, joint issue with Croatia	3b

## The 8th Corridor — Dana Roper

On 9 September 2010 the Republic of Kosovo issued one stamp and a souvenir sheet to publicize the 8th corridor under the name “Traffic in the Pathways of Integration,” which was just listed in the Scott catalog (see the catalog number update in this issue). On seeing the listing, Don Smith asked “Is this Europa? I’m not sure that a circle of stars is enough to say that it is.”

A bit of research would indicate that it is at the very least Europa related.

Corridor 8 (also referred to in Roman Numerals—i.e., Corridor VIII) is one of a number of trade routes that has been identified by the EU and others as key to the integration of various countries—especially those of Eastern Europe—with the whole of Europa.

E.g.,

- Corridor IV links Dresden and Berlin to Istanbul via Prague, Bratislava, Gyor, Budapest, Arad, Krajova, Sofia and Plovdiv.
- Corridor X crosses Salzburg, Ljubljana, Zagreb, Belgrade, Nis, Skopje, Veles and Thessalonica.



The Kosovo issue of 2010 depicts the 8th corridor beginning in Italy and extending into Albania and onward to Bulgaria. The stamp shows a stylized “8” using the EU flag.

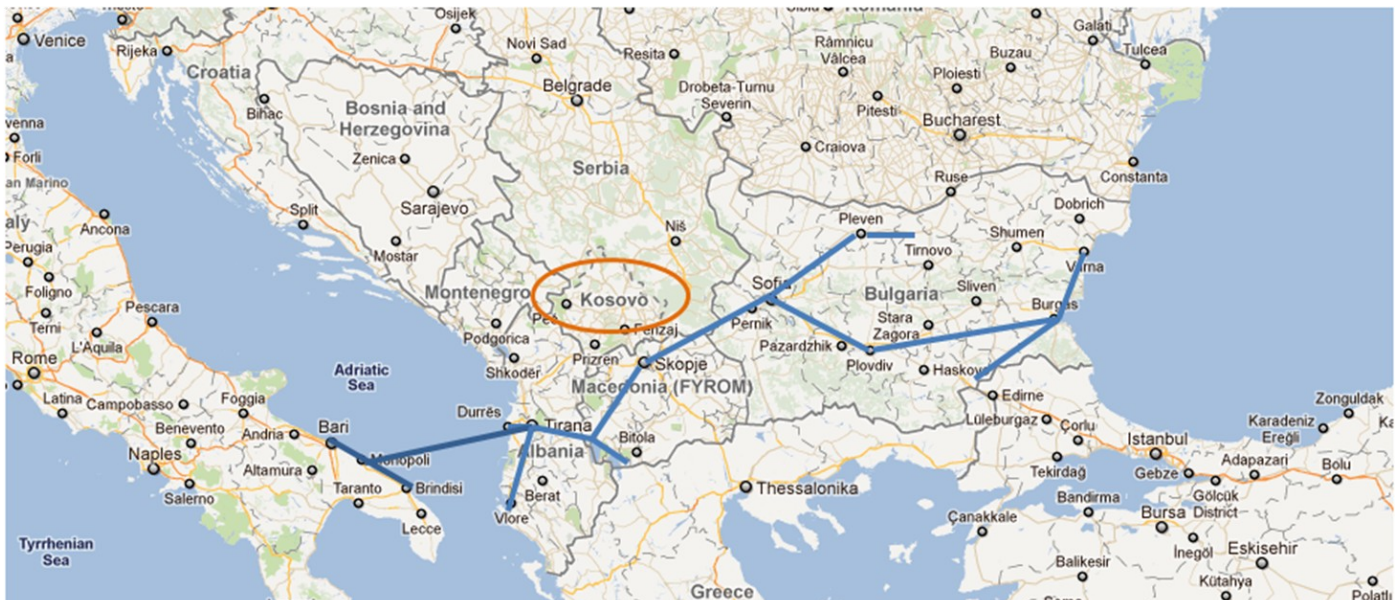


- Corridor VIII links the Albanian port of Durrës to Varna (Bulgaria) via Tirana, Kaftan, Skopje, Devo Bair, Sofia, Plovdiv and Burgas.

These three Corridors are part of the pan-European networks (PAN), a more global project set up to help develop former members of the Soviet block and integrate them into the European economy. The corridors are a project begun by the EU in the early 1990s. The complete concept of the pan-European networks, including the pan-European transport corridors (PETRA) spans the whole of Europe, from the Atlantic to the Urals.

The Kosovo press release says that “the 8th corridor is one of the corridors of the European Network of Transport known by the EU as the West-East connection. *Post of Kosovo Philately* launches the stamps to promote the importance of connection between countries and people. Even though the Republic of Kosovo is not directly included in the 8th corridor, the extent of its proximity indirectly affects Kosovo. Launch of these stamps proves that we are the country of integration, economic development and prosperity, and EU-oriented.”

The stamps are thus a propaganda piece, intended to promote Kosovo’s eventual integration into the EU. ■



A detailed map showing the 8th Corridor in Eastern Europe, through Albania, Macedonia and Bulgaria.

Note Kosovo’s proximity to the route while not actually part of it.



## Europa Briefs

Tonny van Loij attended Chicogopex (18-20 November) and sent this brief report:

The show was well attended but expensive. It is actually held in Itasca IL, which is about 12 miles west of O'Hare airport ... nothing much to do around town unless you had a vehicle, which I did not have ... taxi rides to Chicago were 70-80 dollars one way. Only one restaurant in the hotel and not inexpensive... the only other restaurant was a sushi bar and pricey. I found a couple of interesting pieces for my collection, attended 6 hours of seminars and met a lot of interesting people, so that made the show a success. I left 15 copies of the EN plus applications and all were taken. I hope this translates into a new member or two. See you in Atlanta."

Editor's note: in defense of the hotel, a good sushi bar will not be inexpensive. "Discount sushi" is, or at least should be, an oxymoron. ■

In this issue we include the much awaited handbook supplement for Europa 2010. Two reasons (excuses) for the delay: the year took awhile to wrap up, and we finally got a handbook czar to take control. Our czar is Alex Cwiekalo and he has assumed the role with relish. He asks that if anyone has any additional info regarding the HB (missing Michel numbers, etc.) please send them to [ac.esu.handbook@ohiohills.com](mailto:ac.esu.handbook@ohiohills.com).

This is the first time that the printed copy was generated directly from the computerized version. We stayed with sideways ("landscape") format for now simply because the vertical ("portrait") format was too small to read comfortably. Our team plans to meet during the APS StampShow in January to discuss our options for the future.

Which, by the way, promises many exciting developments. First order of business will be to bring the handbook up to date, and computerize it as we go. That will be a daunting task to say the least, but the end result should be very worthwhile. Next up will be doing the same for the old monographs. Once the material is computerized, it can be made available to members for downloading via the website.

We will also be producing new articles/monographs/checklists, and more interactive content on the website.

The work will be challenging, but fun. Let us know if you see an area where you'd like to contribute. ■

In EN#402-19 I mentioned that I got a great deal on errors of the Turkey Europa issue of 1966. Don Smith emailed me the following:

The Turkish error brings to mind a story that I may have already told you. Back in the early 1970s when we were having Unit exhibits in NYC, I had an exhibit with a pair of the lower value blue stamp without printing and imperf. Angela Minerva (who had a fantastic collection to die for) was spellbound when she saw it. At the next year's show she had a block of 4 of the same stamps. I think it's called one-upmanship! Anyway at the time it was felt that the errors were actually government-contrived. The Turkish postal authorities were never really known for the purity of their issues. Too many were suddenly on the market. I never saw the high value error until it appeared in the EN.

Before I bought the stamps, I checked the CD version of the Europa Handbook. Sure enough, they were noted them in the Remarks section. Michel and Domfil mentioned them as well, but the handbook had the most accurate description. ■

Recently seen on eBay:



"Souvenir sheet" commemorating 5 years of Europa stamps. The 1961 France Europa issue first day cancelled at the Council of Europe. It sold for \$1.50 + \$3 s&h.



Another "souvenir sheet" created from the Hungarian KSZE issue of 1985. The circular stamp was removed, and applied to another sheet which was then first day cancelled. It sold for \$6.50 + \$3 s&h.



An unofficial souvenir sheet created for two stamp shows depicting the Finland KSZE issue of 1985. "Buy It Now" price was \$15.85 + \$7 s&h. ■

**New Issues — Joint Issues****SPAIN-RUSSIA**

Issue date

10 November 2011

1v from each country

*Year of Spain in Russia and Russia in Spain.* The stamp is a design in which the vertical stripes of both the Spanish and Russian flags entwine.

**ITALY-RUSSIA**

Issue date

10 December 2011

1v from each country

*Year of Russian Culture and Language in Italy / Year of Italian Language and Culture in Russia.* The design shows the colors of Russia and Italy juxtaposed within the outline of a heart.

**IN THIS ISSUE OF THE EN**

- **HANDBOOK UPDATE**—EUROPA 2010
- **THE LUSTER MONOGRAPHS** Part II France covers
- **NEW ISSUES**
  - Europa 2012 kickoff
  - Europa 2011 additions
  - Europa spinoffs—CIS, RCC, EurAsEc
  - The 8th Corridor
  - Dante, Joint Issues, and other related items

**AND COMING UP ...**

- **HANDBOOK UPDATE**—Nordic Issues
- **HANDBOOK UPDATE**—EUROPA 2011
- **MEMBER AUCTIONS**
- **THE LUSTER MONOGRAPHS** cont'd
  - 1956 other countries
  - 1957 through 1960
- **NEW ISSUES**
- **FEATURE STORIES**

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**APS StampShow Atlanta, GA****Friday 27 January 2012 10 am Room 116****EUROPA NEWS**

Bulletin of the Europa Study Unit

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