

# EUROPA NEWS



BULLETIN OF THE EUROPA STUDY UNIT  
<http://www.europastudyunit.org/>



Europa Philately in all of its aspects:  
CEPT/PostEurop, EU Agencies, European Cooperation, NATO, Norden, sepac, EuroMed

## SPECIAL FEATURE ... THE NORTHERN COUNTRIES PLUS The Luster Chronicles Returns with Europa 1960



### WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

#### ARTICLES

ALAND EXHIBITION STAMPS .....	20
FEATURE: EUROPA BRIEFS .....	7
THE LUSTER CHRONICLES: EUROPA 1960 .....	16-19
THE NORTHERN COUNTRIES .....	8-14

**ESU Auction #153** ..... **Insert 1**

#### DEPARTMENTS

NEW ISSUES: EUROPA 2020 .....	4
NEW ISSUES: EUROPA 2021 .....	2-4
NEW ISSUES: SEPAC 2021 .....	5
NEW ISSUES: GENERAL (OTHER)....	5-6
NEW ISSUES: WITH SCOTT #s .....	15
<b>Dues Notice</b> .....	<b>Insert 2</b>

**Last chance!**

**Dues Season is upon us. Please use the insert to send in your dues now. Thanks!!**

**New Issues**  
**Europa 2021**  
**Endangered National Wildlife**

For all of these write-ups, I'll refer often to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), whose Red Book is the bible for endangered species classification.

**GIBRALTAR** 2v, and a ss of 1 set (shown)

*Issue date 5 February 2021*



Perhaps Gibraltar's most important tourist attraction, the **Barbary Macaques**, are normally found in North Africa, but their presence in Gibraltar probably dates from the early days of the British garrison when it is presumed that they were imported, inevitably finding the rough limestone cliffs and scrub vegetation a congenial habitat.

In fact, many legends have grown up around them. One is that they travelled from their native Morocco via a subterranean tunnel starting at St Michael's Cave leading down underneath the Strait of Gibraltar. Another legend claims that, should the macaques ever disappear, the British will leave Gibraltar.

These animals are classified as *Endangered* by the IUCN

— from Gibraltar-stamps

**LIECHTENSTEIN** 2v, and a ss of 2 sets (shown)

*Issue date 1 March 2021*



Characteristic of the **Noble Crayfish** (aka **European Crayfish**), which gets prime billing on the sheetlet, are its claws, which are reddish in color on the underside and at the joints. As a local resident, it prefers lowland streams and still waters, and is predominantly nocturnal. Water pollution, accumulation of mud, but especially monotonous watercourse construction and improper fishing are major threat factors. However, the greatest threat to all native crayfish species is the crayfish plague. The IUCN Redlist category is *Vulnerable*.

As the world's smallest predator, the **Weasel** populates large parts of Europe and lives wherever there are field mice and shelters. It differs from its close relative, the ermine, by its small body mass and short tail, which lacks the black tip. The marten species is threatened by urban sprawl, traffic and the loss of land as it is now extensively used for agricultural purposes. The weasel is classified as *Least Concern* by the IUCN, due to its wide distribution and large population throughout the Northern Hemisphere.

— from Philatelie Liechtenstein and Wikipedia

New Issues  
**Europa 2021**  
**Endangered National Wildlife**

**JERSEY** 2v + ss of same values (shown); the 2v are part of a set of 6v as shown

Issue date 11 March 2021



As an island, Jersey is both a home and a resting point for a multitude of birds and sea creatures. Six species of marine life that have been spotted in the waters and around the coastal areas of Jersey have been featured across this set of stamps. The animals have been painted by natural science illustrator Sara Menon. The 54p and £1.05 stamps feature the Europa logo.

— from *Jersey Post*

Jersey Post has a new website, which at first glance seems prettier, but has less information than its predecessor. For a time, they are offering a 10% discount for online orders.



54p (Europa) — The **Atlantic Puffin** (*Fratercula arctica*) is a species of seabird in the auk family. It is the only puffin native to the Atlantic Ocean; two related species, the tufted puffin and the horned puffin, are found in the northeastern Pacific. Its conservation status is *Vulnerable*, as its population has been decreasing.

70p — The **Loggerhead Sea Turtle** (*Caretta caretta*) is found in the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans, as well as the Mediterranean Sea. It spends most of its life in saltwater and estuarine habitats, with females briefly coming ashore to lay eggs. The average loggerhead measures around 3 feet in carapace length when fully grown. It is classified as *Vulnerable*.

84p — The **Killer Whale**, or **Orca** (*Orcinus orca*) is the largest member of the dolphin family. Not enough information exists to render a definitive conservation status.

88p — speaking of dolphins. the common **Bottlenose Dolphins** (*Tursiops truncatus*) are found everywhere except for the Arctic and Antarctic Circle regions. Their high intellectual and emotional intelligence has driven extensive interaction with humans. They are not endangered.

£1.05 (Europa) — The **Balearic Shearwater** (*Puffinus mauretanicus*) is a medium-sized bird that just was given its own species designation and is considered *critically endangered* with extinction by the IUCN

£1.18 — The **Grey Seal** (*Halichoerus grypus*) is found on both shores of the North Atlantic Ocean. In the United Kingdom and Ireland, the grey seal breeds in several colonies on and around the coasts. Its conservation status is *least concern*.

— from *Wikipedia*

**New Issues**  
**Europa 2021**  
**Endangered National Wildlife**

**SAN MARINO** 2v

*Issue date 30 March 2021*



The **Italian Cave Salamander** (*Speleomantes italicus*) is a species of salamander endemic to Italy. Its natural habitats are temperate forests, rocky areas, caves, and other subterranean habitats. Classified as *Near Threatened* by the IUCN, it is threatened by habitat loss.



**Potamon fluviatile** is a freshwater crab found in or near wooded streams, rivers and lakes in Southern Europe. It is an omnivore with broad ecological tolerances, and adults typically reach 50 mm (2 in) in size during their 10–12 year lifespan. They inhabit burrows and are aggressive, apparently out-competing native crayfish. It is classified as *Near Threatened* by the IUCN.

*P. fluviatile* has been harvested for food since classical antiquity, but is now threatened by overexploitation. Many of the island populations are particularly vulnerable, and the Maltese subspecies has become a conservation icon. A population in Rome may have been brought there before the founding of the Roman Empire.

— from Wikipedia

**New Issues**  
**Europa 2020**

**Blame It On the Virus ?**

Just when even the [Blogspot](#) gave up and assumed that there was no issue for Albania, what to our wondering eyes should appear?! This may be one reason why Lighthouse keeps pushing out the availability date of its Europa supplements.

**ALBANIA** 1v + ss

*Issue date*  
**22 February 2021**



According to the Blogspot “*the stamp is issued in a mini-sheet of 9 stamps and large sheets of 28 stamps.*”

*But here’s the kicker:*

“*...a different souvenir-sheet with two stamps (150- & 250.- ALL) is also issued in a booklet.*”

So, what does that “different” souvenir sheet look like? This issue isn’t even shown on the Albania website yet, but I’m guessing it’s another collectible variety. Caveat emptor?

**New Issues**  
**SEPAC 2021**  
**Historical Maps**

**ÅLAND** 1v

Issue date 25 March 2021



The nautical chart from 1747 was drawn by the Swedish pilot officer Jonas Hahn (1703–59). Rödhamn is just over 10 nautical miles from Mariehamn, located at the far end of the Åland Sea and consists of the islands Långö, Ljungskär, Gloskär and Rödö. The harbor has been a protected night harbor for seafarers for several centuries and is today a popular guest harbor.

— from Åland Post

**JERSEY** 1v from a set of 6v

Issue date 17 February 2021



Six stamps depict the cartographic history of Jersey over the last five centuries. A Presentation Folder is available. Information and technical details of the issue are printed on the inside of the folder.

— from Jersey Post

The new Jersey Post website makes no mention of SEPAC; in years past, the entire set would have been described as a SEPAC issue.

**New Issues**  
**European Sporting Events**

**SAN MARINO** 4v

Issue date 16 June 2020

**Athletics Championships of the Small States of Europe**



Organized by the San Marino Athletics Federation, the event was to be held for the first time in San Marino, but was postponed due to Covid-19. The series depicts athletes engaged in pole vaulting, the 100-meter run, the obstacle course and the long jump. The athlete and his body are at the center of these subjects, represented in their maximum expression of elegance and power.

— from San Marino Post

**SAN MARINO** 1v

Issue date 16 June 2020

**European Football (Soccer) Championship**



The 16th edition of the maximum continental men's major national team football tournament organized by UEFA will take place in 2021. The tournament is planned for the first time in a traveling competition: 12 European cities, including Rome, will host the matches. The value depicts two players engaged in game action, while the band portrays four players who are trying to hit the ball

— from San Marino Post

## New Issues

### European Anniversaries and Events

#### BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA (Croat) 1v

*Issue date*  
26 September 2020

#### European Day of Languages



European Day of Languages is celebrated on 26 September with the aim of valuing and promoting all languages and cultures and preserving the rich heritage of European languages, as well as motivating people to learn more languages for life. In order to celebrate European linguistic diversity, it was first marked in 2001 at the initiative of the Council of Europe and the European Union. There are about 7 billion people living on Earth who speak between 6,000 and 7,000 different languages. Of these, only 3% are indigenous European languages (around 225).

Latin (*lingua Latina*) is the language of the Latin-Phalistic segment of the Italian branch of the Indo-European language family. At the beginning of the historical period, it was spoken in the province of Lazio (*Latium*), after which it got its name. Latin is the language of classical Roman literature, the official language of the Roman state, the Western Church, medieval Latin literature, science, education, and public administration. Until the 19th century, it was the official language in some European countries.

Today it is considered an important world language used in the Catholic Church, all branches of modern science (especially as the foundation of medicine), culture and literature. Of all the world's languages, Latin has had the greatest influence on other languages.

— from *Hrvatska pošta Mostar*

#### AUSTRIA 1v

*Issue date*  
10 October 2020

#### 100th Anniversary of the Carinthian Referendum



At the end of WW I the Carinthian region in the southern Austrian border was up for dispute. The newly formed kingdom of Croats, Serbs and Slovenes (later Yugoslavia) claimed it, while Austrian German-speaking peoples wanted it to be left with Austria. A plebiscite was held on 10 October 1920, and when the dust cleared, the result was that Carinthia was part of Austria.

This kind of local dispute is what keeps throwing sand in the gears of the Europa ideal. There have been a few stamps on this topic, and when Austria issued a stamp for the 50th Anniversary in 1970 (Scott #883) it was mentioned in EN# 134-2 as a forerunner.

### New Issues

#### Concorde



#### SAO TOME E PRINCIPE

2ss

ST-20526a,b

*Issue date*  
31 August 2020

#### Concorde



Unclear what, if any, event this is commemorating. Probably just another attempt to separate collectors from their cash.



## Feature Europa Briefs



**EuroMed Not-Very-New News.** In a previous EN, I said that the [EuroMed website](#) mentioned that the 2019 stamp design contest was a big success; unfortunately, the site didn't mention the winners. Well, I stand corrected; as the politicians would say, that's not entirely factual. While it is true that the Philately section makes no mention of it, a bit of spelunking through the "News and Press" section does reveal a story, with a byline of [19 November 2019](#). The contest gathered over 8000 votes from 84 countries, so there is definitely interest in this Europa subtopic. The winner was France, followed by Lebanon in 2nd and Croatia in 3rd.



No word on whether a contest was held in 2020, but I suspect not, another victim of the Virus. Perhaps 2021 will see a revivification. ■

**Errata Dept.** ESU member Will Keleher, after thanking me for the byline on the UPAEP article, noted that I added an extra "l" to his last name. Oops. On-the-ball Tonny had already started printing, but I did correct the online version. Will also pointed out that Tbilisi is still the capital of Georgia (see New Issues, EN 461-2). Where I got the info that it wasn't, I don't know, but the online version is correct.

**Eureka! Europa** is the title of an article in the September 2020 issue of [STAMP magazine](#). This was brought to my attention by ESU member Myron Kavalgian last November, who kindly printed out the article and sent it to me. The article was a nice pictorial overview of Europa stamps, focusing on the earlier annual issues with their common designs. It did, however, include a table of the Europa themes for each year through 2020. My only quibble was that there were no references for the interested reader to follow up; e.g., the Europa Blogspot or our humble little group. I'll drop them a note.



**Run That By Me Again Dept.** A few of our members have asked me recently what the deal is with "all this other stuff" like Norden, SEPAC, EuroMed, .... Over the years, I realize that I've been taking for granted that everyone was up to speed on these associated topics. Perhaps not, and so we decided to go back through the files and reprint some of the relevant articles on these topics. We kick that off this issue with a revisit to the first set of recurring issues to get our attention as Europa collectors: the Norden/Nordic issues. So, without further ado, please turn the page ....

### Last chance!

**Dues Season is upon us. Please use the insert to send in your dues now. Thanks!!**

## Article

## The Northern Countries — Dana Roper

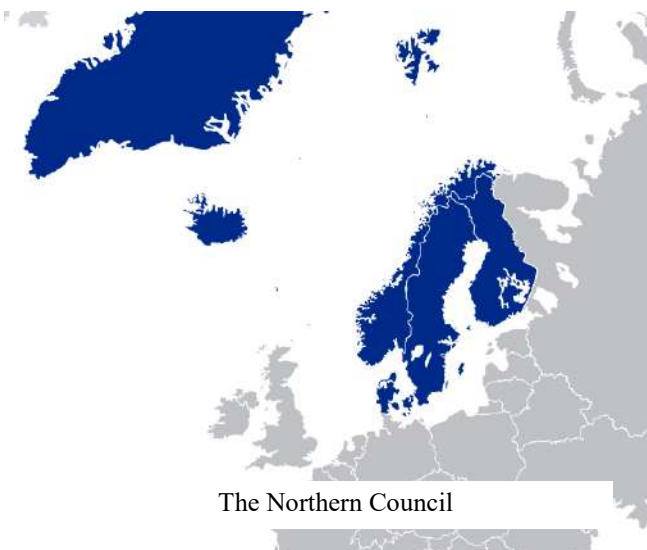
The Nordic Flags:



Denmark Sweden Norway Finland Iceland Greenland Åland Faroe Is

*Background*

The following was sourced from an article originally printed in Europa News 401 (January-February 2011) and subsequent issues. The information has been revised and brought up-to-date where appropriate.

*History of Norden/Nordic*

The term 'Nordic Countries' (NC) is derived from the French term *Pays Nordiques* which means "The Northern Lands". While the term *Scandinavia* is commonly used for Denmark, Norway and Sweden, the term *the Nordic countries* is used unambiguously for Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Iceland, including their associated territories (Greenland, the Faroe Islands, and the Åland Islands).

"Norden" is the Scandinavian term for the Nordic countries. Nordic countries (Greenland being the only exception) have similar flag designs referred to generally as the Nordic Cross. See the illustration above this article.



The Norden Countries logo is a stylized depiction of 5 post horns blending into one.

The *Norden Association*, established in 1919, is an organization in the Nordic countries which exists to promote civil cooperation between them, e.g. a job exchange program and town twinning ("Jumelage") between Nordic countries. It was a proponent for the establishment of the Nordic Council, a political cooperation organization founded in 1952, and a harbinger of the European Union.

The idea of a Norden issue with a common motif was bred by the Norden Association in 1951. At the conference of the Nordic Postal Association in March of that year the consensus was to accede to the idea, but actual implementation was postponed for various reasons. The proposal finally became a reality in 1956.

*The Norden Stamp Issues*

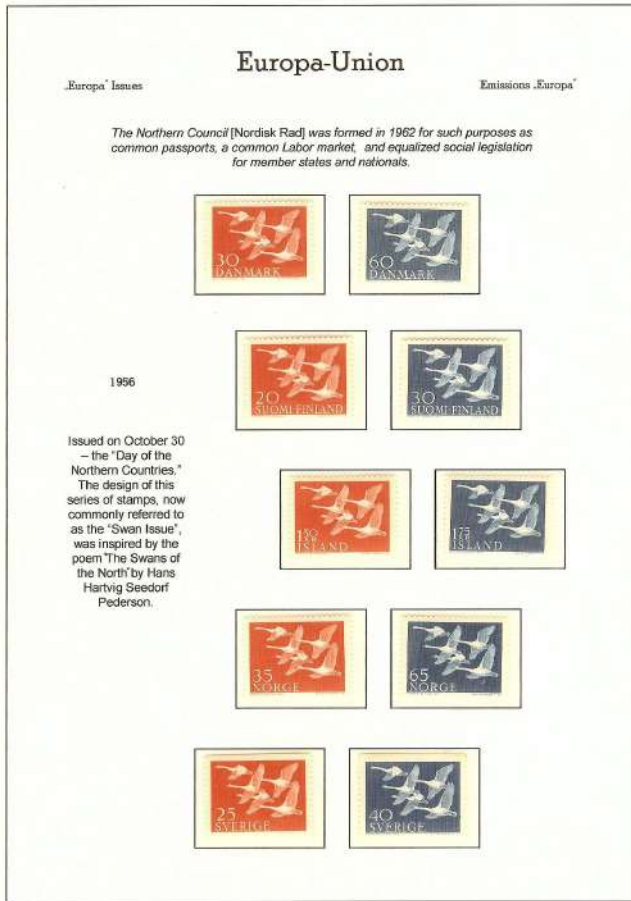
The first issue of 1956 had a common motif of **Five Flying Swans**:

On 1 October 1956, the postal administrations of the five countries announced at the same time that "in order to accentuate the Nordic cohesion and the importance of the Nordic cooperation in various fields" they were going to "issue some special stamps with common motif on the Nordic Countries' Day, 30 October 1956". Each country issued the stamps with two values in red and blue colors respectively.

The Swan motif came from a 1946 poem by Hans Hartvig Seedorff Pedersen titled "*Svanerne fra Norden*" [The Swans from the Nordic Countries]. The design is by Viggo Bang of Denmark, who won a competition among the five countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden). Proofs were engraved by Swedish chief engraver Sven Ewert



**Article**  
**The Northern Countries — cont'd**



The album layout above shows the 10 stamps on a homemade Lighthouse-style page. The layout is derived from that used by AYAL albums in the 1960s. The AYAL line perished in the 1970s.

The next common issue was by the three core Nordic countries — Denmark, Norway and Sweden — to commemorate the 50th anniversary of their common airline company **SAS** ([Scandinavian Airlines System](#)). Issued in

1961, their common design is a stylized representation of an airliner flying upward through the clouds.



There is some honest disagreement among collectors as to whether this is really a Norden issue since it doesn't quite fit the mold, but many collectors include it.



The layout above is another homemade page, showing the three countries' stamps accompanied by a baggage label from the 1950s.

I enjoy adding occasional items like this, as I like the bit of interest they add to a collection.

[Author's Note 1: The AYAL-style layout in the preceding column was generated on a computer using the PowerPoint technique described in EN#400. The page at the top of this column was also generated on a computer, but much older, probably a PS2. The tool was IBM Personal Editor, and the printer was an IBM widebody ProPrinter in text mode. For my grandchildren, this occurred sometime before the discovery of fire.]

## Article

## The Northern Countries — cont'd

It wasn't until 1969 that the Norden countries began their regular series of stamps. It later became obvious that this was a collecting topic similar to the Europa annual issues. It has always been considered a close adjunct to the Europa topic, and album makers such as Lighthouse include them in their annual "Mitläufer" (Sympathy) supplements. They are listed in the Michel CEPT Catalog, and also on the [Europa Blogspot](#) web page. For our part, our Europa Handbook lists them as [Adjunct Section B1](#).

In 1969 the Northern Countries again collaborated on a common design. This time, the design was taken from an old coin found at the site of Birka, an ancient Swedish town.

The design shows **Five Viking Ships**, again symbolizing unity and solidarity. The issue also commemorated the fiftieth anniversary of the Norden Association (in 1919), and the centenary of Scandinavian postal cooperation.



The next common issue was four years later, in 1973. The common design this time was of the **Nordic House**, in Reykjavik Iceland.



The Nordic House is a common cultural center for the Nordic Countries. Finnish architect Alvar Aalto designed the building, which was completed in 1968 and opened to the public in August the same year. The office of the Nordic Association is also located there.

The five countries issued their stamps simultaneously on 26 June in conjunction with the current session of the Nordic Postal Congress.

Four years later, in 1977, another common design was selected. The theme this time was conservation of the environment, and the design showed **Five Water Lilies**.

The design also included the new logo of Nordic postal cooperation - a stylized representation of five post horns merging into a single horn (shown on the first page of this article). The issue date this time was 19 February — date of the 25th session of the Northern Council in Helsinki, Finland.

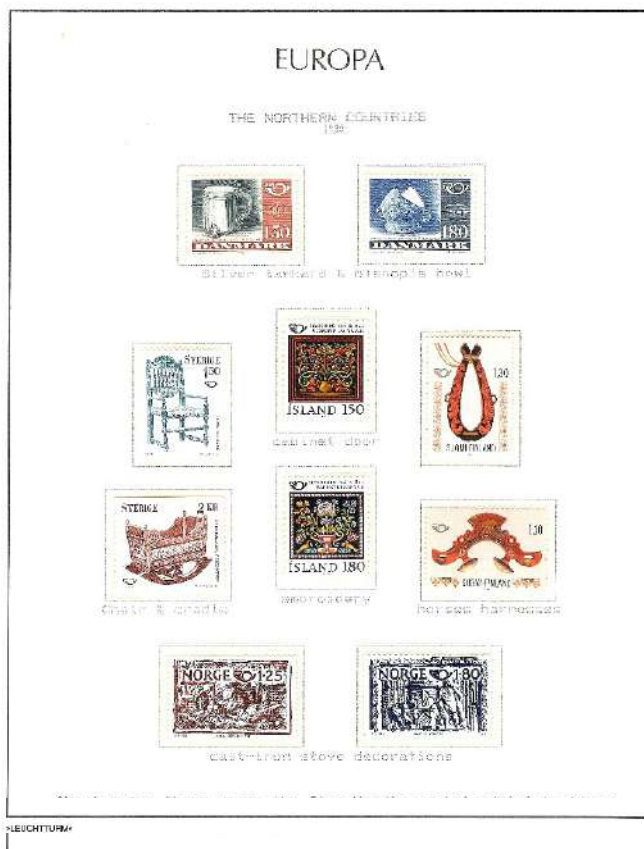


Article

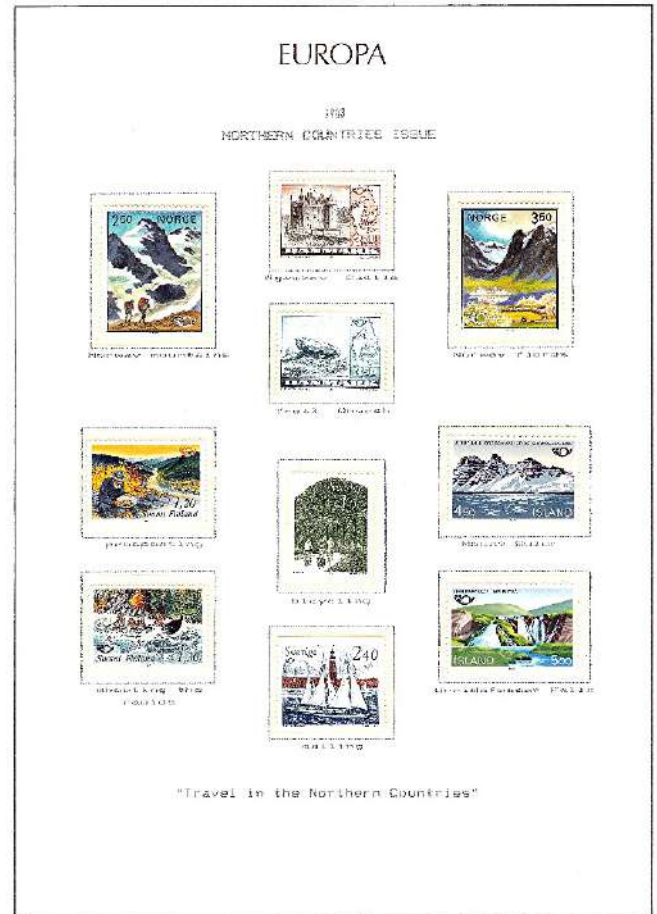
[Author's Note 2: The album layout on the preceding page was an early attempt by this author to try his hand at an artistic approach. The tools used were a T-square, a typewriter, and a pencil. I was mimicking the stamp design, and was happy with the result, even though no computer was involved.]

At the next Northern Council meeting, it was decided to keep issuing a common set of stamps on a regular schedule, but to do so every three years rather than four. And so, the next set of stamps was issued in 1980. Note that by now the CEPT had a logo, and the Northern Countries had a logo, and both were variations on the post horn. Carrying the similarity even further, the Northern Countries decided to henceforth issue stamps according to a common theme as opposed to a common design.

The theme in 1980 was **Old Applied Art**, as expressed in Nordic Handicrafts. A homemade page of these issues is shown below.



The theme in 1983 was **Travel in the Northern Countries**; their homemade page is shown below:



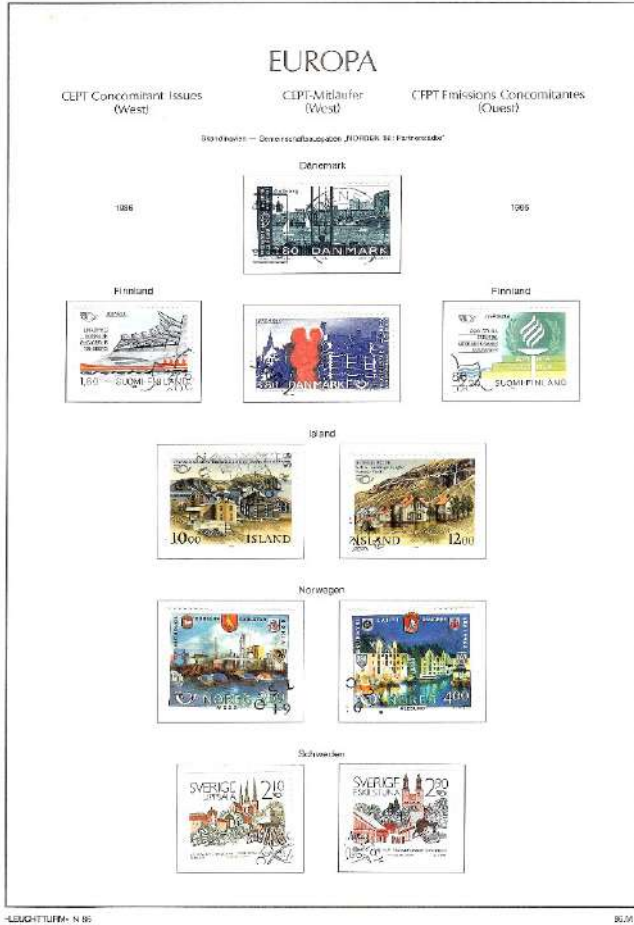
[Author's Note 3: The page above and that in the previous column were printed on an IBM widebody ProPrinter in text mode, using pre-printed Light-house Europa blank pages.]

The 1986 Northern Countries issue featured **"Twin Towns"**. The notion of twinning — a "Jumelage" activity — was inaugurated as a means of cultural exchange, reciprocal visits and common town meetings. The twin towns were  
 Denmark: Aalborg + Thisted  
 Iceland: Stykkisholmur + Seydisfjörður  
 Finland: Joensuu + Jyväskylä  
 Norway: Moss + Alesund  
 Sweden: Uppsala + Eskilstuna

At the very least, participants must learn to pronounce one another's names. (No, I made that up.)

Article  
**The Northern Countries — cont'd**

Their 1986 album page is shown below. It is a Lighthouse Mitläufer page.



[Author's Note 4: The above page was made with just an IBM Selectric typewriter and a Lighthouse Europa blank page. What my grandchildren might call the era of the caveman.]

In 1989, the common theme was **Traditional Native Festive Dress** (i.e., **Folk Costumes**). In addition to the usual five participants, the Faroe Islands issued a set of stamps that were not part of the official issue (and did not include the post horn logo). I chose to include them, although Lighthouse did not. My homemade page is shown in the next column.

Note that the Finnish designs make a single scene when concatenated. I used that in the Nordic Title Pages, available on the ESU Member's web page.



1990 was designated the **European Year of Tourism** by the Council of Europe, and a number of European countries publicized the event with stamps. (This is another nice Europa sub-topic.) The stamps made a hit. Whether inspired by that or not, the Nordic countries decided to issue their next joint issue the following year, with the subject being **Tourism in the Northern Countries**.

In 1991, the Faroe Islands was granted official status, along with Aland and Greenland. Now, all eight countries would be issuing Nordic stamps.

**Article**  
**The Northern Countries — cont'd**

The 1991 Nordic issues ran the gamut. Åland issued a pair of stamps showing activities (kayaking and bicycling) while Sweden showed dolphins and polar bears at the Kolmarden Zoological Park in Ostergotland.



Åland - kayaking

Sweden - polar bears

To get a bit more commonality, the next issue (in 1993; so much for the 3-year cycle) was **Tourist Attractions**. Most countries this year issued stamps showing towns and villages but it was still obvious that Tourism and Tourist Attractions were pretty much synonymous. The next year -1995 - was similar.

At this point, those who followed the Northern Countries closely knew what the NC issues were; if there was any confusion, just look for the little post horn logo. The stamps weren't always advertised as part of the NC series, however, so new issue dealers were often befuddled. Case in point: in 1993, the Faroe Islands issued a set of three stamps plus a souvenir sheet celebrating Nordic House Entertainers. While certainly related, it was not a Norden issue per se., but at the time it was thought to be.

The Scott catalog hasn't been much help either—stamps of this period are not identified as Northern Countries issues.



Nordic House Entertainers

Shortly after that issue, Faroe Islands did produce its Norden issue, showing the village of Gjogv.



Village of Gjogv

After 1995, the countries resumed (began?) what was supposed to have been a 3-year cycle. The designs for 1998 were designated as “**Shipping and Boating in the Northern Countries**”, and so the NC issues depicted ... ships and boats ... but with a purpose. For example, the stamps of Finland commemorated the 80th anniversary of the Finnish Marine Research Institute, and Sweden celebrated the cruise ship industry. The Faroe Islands sat this one out.



Finnish Maritime Research



Cruise Ships

Denmark, however, introduced a twist - besides a se-tenant pair of two stamps, it also issued those same stamps in a little souvenir sheet.

## Article

### The Northern Countries — cont'd

The Denmark issue — showing a harbormaster and a radar image of Copenhagen harbor — proved to be another harbinger of things to come. Perhaps the souvenir sheet turned the trick; Scott identified the Danish issue as “Nordic Stamps.”



To continue the three year cycle, the next set of stamps would have been in 2001. That didn't happen, as the next appearance of Norden stamps slipped to 2002, to correspond with the 50th anniversary of The Northern Council. The chosen theme was **Modern Art in the Northern Countries**. The issue was reminiscent of the earlier issues in that it was a straightforward printing of one or two single stamps per country, and it fit on a single album page.

The Lighthouse “Sympathy” page is shown in the next column. Unfortunately, the fact that these were Northern Countries issues still escaped the notice of the Scott catalog editors, or at least wasn't mentioned, so again one had to rely on the post horn logo to identify them.

Perhaps it did not go unnoticed that the Danish issue of 1998 was identified in Scott as a Nordic issue; more realistically, though, the Northern countries were looking for a brand beyond just the logo.



The 2002 Lighthouse “Mitläufer” (Sympathy) page.

Whatever, it was decided for 2004 that henceforth the Norden issues would occur every two years, and that they would follow both a common theme and a common format. In another ground-breaking move, it was decided that the format would be a souvenir sheet of similar size, and that a theme would persist for three cycles.

The theme chosen for the first such cycle - 2004, 2006, 2008 - was **Nordic Mythology**, a rich source of interesting subject matter.

- The 2004 issue focused on **Nordic Legends**.
- The 2006 issue was **Mythological Beings**
- The 2008 issue was **Mystical Places**.

We'll take those up in the next EN. ■



New Issues  
with **SCOTT** catalog numbers

From Linns' January-February Special Editions  
— Don Smith



<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>SCOTT #</u>	<u>DATE OF ISSUE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Algeria	1788-91	8-Jul-19	<b>EuroMed 2019 EN 453-5</b>
Andorra (Spanish)	482	8-Sep-20	Diplomatic Relations w/Liechtenstein EN 461-7
<b>Austria</b>	<b>2870</b>	<b>8-May-20</b>	<b>Europa 2020</b>
<b>Belarus</b>	<b>1177-8</b>	<b>5-May-20</b>	<b>Europa 2020, 1178a ss 2 each 1177-8</b>
Belarus	1179	8-May-20	End WWII, joint issue w/Russia 8152
Bosnia (Croat)	415	26-Sep-20	European Day of Languages EN 462-
<b>Iceland</b>	<b>1521`</b>	<b>29-Oct-20</b>	<b>Sepac 2020 EN 456-4</b>
<b>Iceland</b>	<b>1522`</b>	<b>29-Oct-20</b>	<b>Norden 2020 EN 456-3</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	<b>1548</b>	<b>15-Sep-20</b>	<b>Sepac 2020 EN 460-5</b>
Malta	1692	24-Oct-20	Wine Culture, pair a-b, joint w/Slovakia EN 861-6
<b>Morocco</b>	<b>1288</b>	<b>13-Jul-20</b>	<b>EuroMed 2020, se-tenant pair 1288a-b EN 460-7</b>
Russia`	8152	8-May-20,	End WWII, joint issue w/Belarus 1179
<b>San Marino</b>	<b>2061-2</b>	<b>24-Mar-20</b>	<b>Europa 2020</b>
San Marino	2070	16-Jun-20	European Soccer Championships EN 462-
San Marino	2074-7	16-Jun-20	Small States of Europe Track & Field Championships EN 462-
Serbia	922	30-Sep-20	JOY of Europe
<b>Slovakia</b>	<b>845-6</b>	<b>30-Apr-20</b>	<b>Europa 2020 (846a bklt w/self-adhesive pane of 6)</b>
Slovakia	848	19-May-20	St. John Paul II, joint w/Poland
Slovakia	851	4-Jul-20	St. Methodius EN 461-8
Slovakia	856	18-Sep-20	St. Adalbert's Society 150th Anniv. EN 461-8
Slovakia	860	24-Oct-20	Wine Culture, pair a-b, joint w/Malta 1692 EN 461-6
<b>Tunisia</b>	<b>1734-5</b>	<b>15-Jul-20</b>	<b>EuroMed 2020 EN 460-7</b>

### Coming, in future issues of Europa News ...

- The Northern Countries Monograph continues with the thematic issues of the new millennium
  - We'll begin a new monograph series with the SEPAC issues, and the latest Europa sub-topic — EuroMed, the stamps of the Mediterranean countries
  - The Luster monographs continue, with in-depth examinations of the stamps of 1960 and 1961
  - Some significant updates and additions to the Europa Handbook, courtesy of Alex Cwiekalo
  - More exciting auctions from Don Smith. He will be adding a lot more “off the beaten path” items in the months to come.
  - Articles of interest from our contributing authors and sister publications, such as *Grenzenloos*
  - Articles examining European history and EU proponents, and current affairs as reflected in our philatelic topic
- Of course, to enjoy all this, you will need to keep your dues current. If you haven't, it's not too late.*** If you see a Dues insert in this issue, you are in jeopardy. Don't wait. Send in your check NOW while you're thinking about it.
- And thanks to all of you for your support to the ESU!***

**“The Luster Chronicles”****The 1960 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster, Part 1**

After documenting the 1959 Europa issues, our distinguished Editor Emeritus (who, along with other ESU Directors, also happens to be a Distinguished Topical Philatelist) Steve Luster, declared that he was finished writing monographs. Well, never say never. We'll let Steve explain in his own words why he got back in the game .... Enjoy.

Last year (probably 2008. —ed.) I completed my monograph of the 1959 Europa issues. I thought that would be the end of my writing monographs for Europa stamps. Why? Because I had completed monographs of Europa stamps for the years 1956-1959. Those four years covered the period of time that Europa stamps were issued under the auspices of the European Coal & Steel Community (ECSC). Also, for the most part, those stamps were only issued by the six ECSC member countries. I knew that once the Conference of European Posts & Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) took over, many more countries would issue Europa stamps.

Starting in 1960, Europa stamps were issued under the auspices of the CEPT. Sure enough, not only did CEPT-member countries issue Europa stamps, at least one non-member did. An organization, with permission, used the common 1960 Europa stamp design to produce a souvenir sheet for use at an international stamp exhibition.

So, who were the ECSC and CEPT in 1960? The ECSC countries were Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and The Netherlands. Each member issued 1960 Europa stamps.

CEPT member countries issuing stamps in 1960 were Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany (West), Great Britain, Greece, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey. So, in 1960, the CEPT countries issuing stamps numbered nineteen. That is a lot more than the six ECSC countries that issued Europa stamps in previous years.

What did the increase in Europa stamp issuing countries mean to me? I stop writing the monographs for a year. Then, I got bitten by the “bug” again. The result of being bitten is this monograph covering the 1960 Europa issues. I felt that to tackle such a big job, some things from previous Europa stamp monographs would have to change.

In previous monographs, I tried to illustrate every possible philatelic item for each country. In this monograph, only representative examples are shown - often because that is all the philatelic material I could find at the time this monograph was written.

To me, the primary importance of the monograph is to document the detailed information contained in the D'Urso Catalogue\*.

I hope that you will enjoy reading it.

\* Editor's Note: the D'Urso Europa catalogue documented not just stamps but cancellations, and other related material. A truly ambitious undertaking, it is long since out of print (1971, and a supplement, was the last issue).



“The Luster Chronicles”

The 1960 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster, Part 1

The six member countries of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) began issuing common design/theme stamps in 1956. That practice continued until 1959. The issues of 1957 were based on a common theme rather than a common design. The idea of the common design/theme stamps was to promote European Unity. Examples of the ECSC stamps follow.



1956



1957

1958

1959

By 1959, many European countries were trying to form a more inclusive organization. A 1959 meeting in The Hague established the basis for forming the new, expanded organization. In March 1959, European Post & Telegraph Administrations met in Scheveningen, Netherlands. At that meeting, which was recognized with a commemorative cancel, it was agreed to meet in Montreux, Switzerland in June 1959 to determine the future direction of European posts and telegraphs.



Printed matter card (druckwerk) bearing both the special cancel for the March 1959 conference in the Hague and a Scheveningen date/time cancel.

### “The Luster Chronicles”

## The 1960 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster, Part 1

One of the most significant decisions taken at the Montreux Conference was to form the Conference of European Posts and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT, after the French name of the organization).

With the formation of the CEPT, the ECSC ended its auspices over the annually-issued Europa stamps. Starting in 1960, the CEPT began its auspices over the annual “Europa” common design/common theme stamps.



The membership of the CEPT was larger than the six member countries of the ECSC. Thus, with Europa issues coming under the auspices of CEPT, it was a given that starting in 1960, there would be many more countries issuing Europa stamps. In fact, in its first year of operation, all 19 countries issued Europa stamps. Austria and Liechtenstein (not a CEPT member in 1960), issued a Europa stamp that did not use the common design.

So without further ado, lets look at the CEPT common design and then the Europa issues of 1960.

## “The Luster Chronicles”

### The 1960 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster, Part 1

#### 1960 COMMON DESIGN

The common design for 1960, as in other years, was selected in an art contest. The winner of the contest was Pentti Rahikainen of Finland. His design was a 19-spoke wheel forming the letter “O” in the word “EUROPA.”

There is often a lot of symbolism built into the design of Europa stamps. 1960 was no exception. The 19 spokes of the wheel represent the CEPT-member countries. The wheel is the letter “O” in the word “EUROPA” symbolizing “Europe” working together. The word “EUROPA,” the abbreviation CEPT or the CEPT-inspired type face for the word “EUROPA,” often appeared on past and future Europa common/theme stamps issued in future years. Examples of Pentti Rahikainen’s design is below.



Design of a 19-spoke wheel.

A non-postal souvenir sheet issued in 1961 shows a few other designs that didn’t make the cut. I’ll discuss this souvenir sheet in depth at the end of this monograph.



This concludes Part 1. Have we whetted your appetite? The next EN will feature an in-depth look at the 1960 Austria issue — one of only two that *didn't* use the common design! ■

## The Back Page Åland Exhibition Stamps



The stamps shown above were in a New Issue Dealer's recent pricelist. It is a set of six stamps publicizing (?) various 2020 stamp exhibitions. Which obviously begs the question: what's with the sporting motif? I have no idea, nor is that the only interesting, or should I say quirky, thing about this set.

First of all, this set, and another listed with it, do not yet appear on the Åland Post website. Next, the stamp exhibitions cited probably never occurred, thanks to the virus.

I verified that with the first two, and conclude it's probably true of most of them.

Finally, as luck would have it, one of the stamps (yellow outline above) promotes NORDIA 2020, which would logically be included within the Nordic topic we kicked off in this issue.



And yes, Nordia 2020 was officially cancelled. ■

**Breaking News! Alex has updated all of the Handbook entries for  
Europa, Norden, SEPAC, EuroMed  
They are posted under the Handbook button on the Member page.**

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