

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

Europa 2021 Wrap-up



EuroMed 2021 Kickoff

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ESU Auction #155 Insert

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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.

Although the series designation is Endangered National Wildlife, it appears that many countries didn't quite get the memo, and decided to present just European wildlife, whether threatened or not. Many countries also picked the same animal. The European Lynx is a series favorite. I'll try not to duplicate my descriptions, but won't guarantee it. ■

With this lot, the roster of 2021 Europa stamps should be almost complete. There are still four holdouts; the usual suspects (Albania, Georgia, Kazakhstan) plus a new straggler, Italy, who was late last year also. Interestingly, PostEurop's website for this year's competition shows an Albanian stamp. The plot thickens! Vote for your favorite stamp at europa2021.posteurop.org/#/europa2021/en.

SPAIN premium sheet of 6v
 Issue date 14 May 2021



Spain's Europa issue was called out in the last issue of Europa News (ref. EN #464-9), but I forgot to mention that it was also issued in what's called a Premium Sheet, which is shown above. Spain picks a few stamps each year to give this special treatment. Whether album makers will include this in their regular Europa supplements is doubtful, but you never know. It will probably be included in supplements for miniature sheets. ■



As I alluded to in the last issue, the German speaking countries — Austria - Germany - Liechtenstein - Luxembourg - the Netherlands and Switzerland — have again issued a souvenir folder of their Europa stamps.

It is the sixth issue of this kind: 2013 ("The Postman Van") ; 2016 ("Think Green") ; 2017 ("Castles") ; 2018 ("Bridges") ; 2019 ("National Birds") and 2020 ("Ancient Postal Routes").

As before, I recommend ordering directly from Liechtenstein Post or Luxembourg Post. It's easy, painless, and economical. That will also put you on their mailing list for upcoming new issues. ■



New Issues
 Europa 2021
 Endangered National Wildlife

GREENLAND 2v + 2v self-adhesive se-tenant from booklet

Issue date 8 June 2021



The Greenland Institute of Nature and Aarhus University have jointly prepared a so-called **red list**. It is a list of Greenlandic animals and plants' threatening status and was commissioned by the Greenlandic self-government at the Department of Fisheries, Hunting and Agriculture.

According to the latest red list, which is from 2018, there are few animal species in Greenland that are considered endangered.

Greenland **White-fronted Goose** (*Anser albifrons*) is assessed as *moderately endangered*, while **Harbor Seals** (*Phoca vitulina*) are assessed as *critically endangered*.

Globally, the IUCN lists each of these species as *Least Concern*, so the previous designations apply only to Greenland.

— from Post Greenland and Wikipedia

FAROE ISLANDS 2v, issued singly, and in a booklet of self-adhesive stamps

Issue date 26 April 2021



The puffin, with its large colorful beak and orange leg, is an iconic bird of the Faroe Islands. Everyone travelling here in summer expects to be able to see it in large numbers, but many will be disappointed, for the stock has declined substantially in the last many decades.

In 2017, the IUCN added the puffin to the Red List of *endangered* bird species. In the late 1930s, about 350,000 puffins were caught annually. Today, it is estimated that there may be 200,000 pairs of puffins left in the Faroe Islands.

The puffin becomes relatively old which means that there will still be some puffins around for a number of years to come, even if the population continues to decline. The oldest known puffin became 41 years old.

— from Posta Faroe Islands

New Issues
Europa 2021
Endangered National Wildlife

Turkish CYPRUS 2v+ss showing same 2v (shown)

Issue date 29 July 2021



The **Common Pochard** (*Aythya ferina*) is a medium-sized diving duck. The scientific name is derived from Greek *aithuia*, an unidentified seabird mentioned by authors including Hesychius and Aristotle, and Latin *ferina*, "wild game." Their breeding habitat consists of marshes and lakes with a meter or more water depth. Pochards breed in much of temperate and northern Europe and across the Palearctic. They are migratory, and spend winter in the south and west of Europe.

In a number of countries the population of Common Pochard is decreasing mainly due to urbanization of the natural habitats and their transformation, as well as due to overhunting. The pochard is one of the species to which the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds ([AEWA](#)) applies. It is classified as *Vulnerable* by the IUCN.

— from Wikipedia

AZERBAIJAN 2v+ss, also in a booklet pane of 4 se-tenant sets, with straight edges

Issue date 24 June 2021

The **Mouflon** (*Ovis orientalis gmelini*)

is a wild sheep native to the Caspian region from eastern Turkey, Armenia, Azerbaijan to Iran. It is thought to be the ancestor of all modern domestic sheep breeds. It is listed as *Near Threatened* by the IUCN.



Eremias pleskei, commonly known as **Pleske's racerunner** or the trans-Caucasian racerunner, is a species native to the Armenian Plateau in Armenia,

Azerbaijan, Iran, and Turkey. It is listed as *Critically Endangered*.

The **Caucasian Leopard** (*Panthera pardus cis-*



caucasia) is native to Turkey and the Caucasus. It is listed as *Endangered* by the IUCN.

New Issues
Europa 2021
Endangered National Wildlife

MOLDOVA 2v, issued singly in ms of 8 stamps each, and as a ms of 2 sets (shown) inside a booklet cover

Issue date 28 May 2021



The Eurasian Eagle-owl (*Bubo bubo*) is discussed with the stamp of Kosovo, EN# 464-11

The Black Stork (*Ciconia nigra*) is discussed with the stamp of Latvia, EN# 464-2

Peterspost (private) 4v

Issue date 7 July 2021



We first brought these up back in 2017 (EN# 438-12). They are private issue stamps that now have values in rubles (for Russia) and Euros (for Finland). Supposedly you can use these

for packages between and from Russia and Finland to wherever. Be that as it may, they are still cinderellas, so *caveat emptor!*

New Issues
SEPAC 2021
Historical Maps

MONACO 1v

Issue date 19 July 2021



The stamp depicts a map of the Principality of Monaco from 1914 that gives the opportunity to observe the spectacular evolution of the Monegasque territory. Urbanization has intensified in a century. New districts have emerged, thanks in particular to median lands reclaimed from the sea.

— from *Office des Timbres, Monaco*

FAROE ISLANDS ss

Issue date 26 April 2021



Sebastian Münster's map "Septentrionales regiones" from 1578.

The learned German geographer and cartographer Sebastian Münster (1488-1552) was a well-known figure in European intellectual life in the 16th century, especially for the work *Cosmographia*, which was first published in 1544.

— from *Posta Faroe Islands*

Editor's Note. The library *Libreria Antiquaria PERINI* describes a version of this map as originating c.1550, which fits the dates of Münsters's life. Faroe Islands Post says 1578, which is well after his death. I'm missing something.

New Issues
SEPAC 2021
Historical Maps

GUERNSEY 1v from a set of 6v

Issue date
 1 September 2021



Depicted are sections of an old map of “Garnsey” (Guernsey) illustrated by John Speed, one of the most famous British cartographers of the 17th century, whose visually stunning county and country maps are highly collectable and sought after around the world.

Speed (1552-1629) is noted for placing England into the mainstream of map publishing which had been dominated by the Dutch since the late sixteenth century. He began by issuing maps of Great Britain in 1611 in his famous “Theatre of the Empire of Great Britaine.” This remarkable work took over 15 years to assemble and is one of the most influential atlases of the British Isles ever published. It contains maps of the entire British Isles, the individual nations, and separate maps for the counties.

LUXEMBOURG 1v

Issue date
 14 September 2021



No more information yet

Guernsey’s stamps depict various sections of Speed’s “Garnsey” map and feature the historic Parish and Island names:

50p: S. Michael The Vale, Chateau de Vale and S. Sampson

70p: Herme, Great Sarck, Little Sarck and Brehoe

73p: S. Martyn, The Towns & Cornet castle

£1.00: (SEPAC) The British Garnsey

£1.15: Tortuville, S. Andrew, S Peters de Boys and S. Saviour

£1.20: S. Peters de Boys, Roke Hayue, Hanoys and The Howe

Bridget Yabsley, head of philately at Guernsey Post, said: - “Despite coming to mapmaking late in life, Speed’s maps are some of the most appealing cartographic images ever produced. They include town plans, small profiles of important buildings, vignettes of battles, figures of local inhabitants and many other attractive features.

— from *Guernsey Post*

Editor’s Note: The cartographer’s name should not be confused with John *Steed*, the fearless Avenger. I doubt whether Mr. Speed ever said “Mrs. Peel, we’re needed.”



ALAND’s stamp shop provided a sneak peek at this year’s SEPAC folder. They say it will become available sometime in September.

New Issues
EuroMed 2020
Traditional Gastronomy
in the Mediterranean

Who knew? In EN # 449-8 we reported that PUMed included Albania, but to date there were no EuroMed issues from that country. Well, now there is, which your intrepid editor only just stumbled upon while doing a search for Albania's recent Europa issue. I guess being late to the party still beats missing out altogether.

ALBANIA 4v se-tenant in a circle
 Issue date 30 March 2021



A medley of basic Albanian cooking. Clockwise, starting from upper left:

Lacror në sac — traditional pie made with different fillings consisting of various vegetables or meat.

Tavë kosi — lamb and rice baked with a mixture of yogurt and eggs added to a roux of wheat flour and butter.

Fasule të kuge — a dish of red beans with onions, garlic and other ingredients

Tavë krapi — a basic meal of fried carp with tomatoes and spices. Can also be made as a casserole.

New Issues
EuroMed 2021
Traditional Mediterranean Jewelry

So now we proceed to take up EuroMed 2021, which arrived with little fanfare but is now rather well covered on the PUMed website. The following listings are gleaned from there, and from the country websites when possible.

GREECE 4v + ss, shown in reduced size below

Issue date 10 July 2021



0,90 € Golden earrings with pendent doves; early 2nd c. BC (Benaki Museum)

1,00 € Golden Buckle; 6th-7th c. Mytilene Treasure, Kratigos, Lesbos Byzantine and Christian Museum)

1,90 € Silver gilt necklace with chains, corals and colored stones; Epirus, 17th-18th c. (Benaki Museum)

2,00 € Composite bridal breast ornament with silver plaques, chains and pendent crosses; Aidipsos in Euboea, 19th c. (Benaki Museum)

— from Greek Post

New Issues
EuroMed 2021
Traditional Mediterranean Jewelry

SPAIN 1v, issued in a “premium sheet” of 6v as shown

Issue date 12 July 2021



The Mediterranean Sea, refuge to many cultures and civilizations, has been and is the cradle of many generations of artists and master jewelers, who created and developed such a delicate art as Handicraft Jewelry.

From Egyptian to Greek gold work, passing through that from the Phoenician, there are many testimonies, under the shape of unique pieces, which can fortunately be seen in museums and galleries all around the world.

But if there is a culture from whose hands some marvelous jewels came out, that is Islamic culture. By merging with Iberian culture, Mudejar art was born. Chests, bracelets, bangles, rings, pendants and earrings decorated the bodies of the inhabitants of that time. Filigree chiseled in gold, enamels and precious stones are part of the legacy of those cultures that left their mark on the Mediterranean.

The main motif of the Spanish stamp shows a gold and pearl earring, reminiscent of those handmade jewels that decorated the Mediterranean centuries ago.

— from the press release

PORTUGAL 2v

Issue date 9 July 2021



This issue shows an example of an imported piece and another piece produced on the Iberian Peninsula.

The Gaio arrecada is a ‘trumpet earring,’ characteristic for its crescent-shaped body that holds a decorative crown composed of various trumpets. It is a hollow earring, formed of multiple stamped pieces, which heighten its visual impact with a minimum amount of the precious metal. It is dated to the late 7th or early 6th century B.C.E. Each of the trumpets is joined to the crescent-shaped body by a minuscule human head, which represents the Egyptian goddess Hathor. The arrecadas were found in a grave in the Sines region of Portugal, along with other pieces of goldwork and imported objects, constituting a funerary hoard of considerable worth.

Monte Molião, near Lagos, was a significant indigenous settlement on the Algarve coast throughout the Iron Age. The Monte Molião arrecada is a ‘spirals pendant earring,’ characteristic for its plaque of six contiguous spirals (arranged in an inverted pyramid: 3-2-1), each decorated with a central granule, and with other filigree appliqués in other parts of the earring, which also had some settings for semi-precious stones (we know that carnelian and turquoise, at least, were used) or glass paste, of which remain only the prongs to hold the stone in place. Datable to the early 5th century B.C.E., it is typical of production in the southwest of the peninsula;

— from the press release

New Issues
EuroMed 2021
Traditional Mediterranean Jewelry

CROATIA 1v

Issue date 12 July 2021



One of the most luxurious forms of Dubrovnik traditional jewelry are gold earrings. These are earrings that are recognizable by women from Konavle. They are called fjočice, and Konavoke wear them with the traditional festive way of dressing on the wedding day and in the first year of marriage.

— from Hrvatska pošta

MALTA 3v

Issue date 12 July 2021



Items of jewelry found and produced in Malta; a set of earrings 'Tais featured on the 10c stamp, a Maltese Cross pendant on the 30c stamp and a seed pearl brooch on the €2.50 stamp. All three 19th century pieces are made from gold, and embellished with seed pearls. These three pieces of jewelry were displayed in the 2013 exhibition 'Vanity, Profanity and Worship: Jewelry from the Maltese Islands' organized by Fondazzjoni Patrimonju Malti and held at the Casino Maltese, Valletta.

— from Malta Post

MONTENEGRO 1v

Issue date 12 July 2021

Earrings from ancient Budva



The ancient necropolis of Budva dates from the 5th century BC. Its history is divided into Greco-Illyrian and younger Roman. Judging by the exhibits, the life of the former inhabitants of Budva abounded in refined and decorated handicrafts. This is evidenced by the exhibition of the Archaeological Museum in Budva, whose special place is a collection of Hellenistic gold jewelry. The most expressive Hellenistic motif is the insertion of semi-precious stone ornaments (amber, granite, glass paste) into the golden thread, thus complementing the jewelry.

Especially interesting are the earrings with the image of ox heads made of gold and granite, which date from the IV-III century BC, the Hellenistic period.

— from Pošta Crne Gora

CYPRUS 1v

Issue date 8 July 2021



The picture is of a gold pendant from the 14th-13th cent. B.C. It was found during excavations at Engomi and is now in the Archeological Museum in Cyprus. A similar pendant from excavations at Enkomi is in the British Museum. The design is that of a hollow pomegranate with a ring at the top for suspension. The whole surface is covered with twelve horizontal rows of small granulated triangles.

— from Cyprus Post

New Issues
EuroMed 2021
Traditional Mediterranean Jewelry

FRANCE 1v

Issue date 9 July 2021



A treasure of the seabed, Mediterranean red coral is widely used in jewelry making. In the hollow of the neck or the wrist, in earrings or in a necklace, “red gold”, reputed to bring good luck, still knows the same craze today. Whatever its value, a piece of jewelry tells a story. It expresses a social status, a belonging to a religion, evokes a memory. This “memorial sign”, as Jean-Jacques Rousseau called it, is often part of a regional tradition.

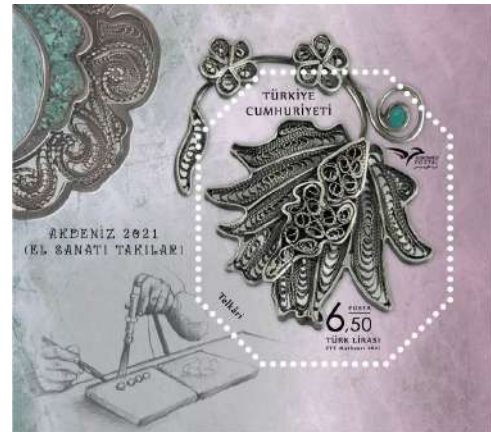
In the 18th century, in the Arles region, future brides were offered the "coulas", a bangle-type bracelet, in gold or silver, holding a chiseled medal. The coquetry of Arlésiennes stimulates the local silversmiths who compete in their know-how. The privileged relationship between Arles and the Order of Malta inspired them with sumptuous adornments. They revisit in particular the enameled Maltese cross set with a diamond, to which they add a pendant in the shape of a teardrop. A Latin cross for faith, an anchor for hope, a heart for charity, the Camargue cross created in 1926, whose ends recall the tridents of the guardians, has become the symbol of the Camargue soul.

Strengthened by their regional identity, jewelry has stood the test of time. Trivia: the term "poissardes", which nowadays designates earrings, refers to the fishmongers of Marseille, great lovers of jewelry.

— excerpted from *La Poste*

TURKEY 1v in a ms

Issue date 12 July 2021



Turkish handcrafted jewelry made with methods such as telkari (filigree), niello, wattle, and openwork, are traditional jewelry production techniques transferred from father to son, master to apprentice for thousands of years to the present, without losing their properties.

Telkari (Filigree), one of the Turkish handicraft techniques, is a decorative art similar to fine-looking lace obtained by curling, wrapping or knitting thin silver or gold wires to form various patterns or by soldering them on a metal background. Filigree is a combination of the Latin words “filium” (yarn) and “granium” (wheat).

The “Tie Pin” on the stamp is inspired by rumi patterns and is made by filigree technique and designed by applying inlay and embossing process in patches.

— from the press release

SLOVENIA 1v

Issue date 11 July 2021



No further information at this time

New Issues
EuroMed 2021
Traditional Mediterranean Jewelry

JORDAN 5S

Issue date 12 July 2021



Handicrafts are an art that mimics heritage and civilization, and being a beautiful art with practical vitality, its benefits not only enjoy its beauty, but also its client uses combined with its aesthetic splendor, and the practice of handicrafts increases the ability to focus and encourage creativity and innovation of new things, and gives the owner a sense of happiness and helps him get rid of negative energy, so it is considered a national heritage that highlights and expresses the identity of the country.

The issue consists of a collection of handicrafts in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Palestine, the Jordanian necklace is silver chain with gemstones consisting of ruby and carp.

The Palestinian craft is Palestinian shatweh headdress from Bethlehem whose front is covered with rows of silver coins and necklace attached to it.

The Syrian earring is silver with gemstones.

The Lebanese bracelet is made of carp and ruby.

— from the press release

MOROCCO 1v

Issue date 12 July 2021



In Morocco, the jewel, more than an ornamental object, is a real heritage, and a thousand-year-old tradition which has evolved following successive civilization's influence in Morocco: Amazigh, Phoenician, Carthaginian, Byzantine, Arab, Jewish-Andalusian.

City jewelry is usually made of gold or gilded silver, finely chiseled and adorned with precious stones, in Fez, Meknes, Rabat, Tangier, Marrakech, and in the north in Tetouan. Rural jewels are in silver, with austere and varied shapes drawing their origins from the tribes tales.

The stamp depicts earrings composing, among other things, the jewels completing the bride outfit from Tangier or from Tetouan. These are very ornate buckles, precious by the material used and the manufacturer know-how. The upper part is carved in foliage encrusted with precious stones, and the lower part begins with a cube also set, where a pendant is hung which ends with a half-ring that resembles a ram's horn. These earrings are so heavy that they are connected to the hairstyle by a supporting chain.

— from the press release

Other countries will be covered in the next issue:
 Algeria
 Egypt
 Lebanon
 Tunisia
 + more if/as they become available.

New Issues
European Cooperation

SPAIN 1v

Issue date 9 June 2021

**Builders of Europe—
Konrad Adenauer**



Konrad Adenauer, dubbed "Der Alte" ("the old man"), the oldest democratically elected leader in world history, displayed a strong dedication to a broad vision of market-based liberal democracy and anti-communism. He worked to restore the West German economy from the destruction of World War II to a central position in Europe, presiding over the German Economic Miracle. He founded the Bundeswehr in 1955 and came to terms with France, which made possible the economic unification of Western Europe. Adenauer opposed rival East Germany and made his nation a member of NATO and a firm ally of the United States.

— from the Editor's notes

This is the second in a planned annual series. The first issue was for Robert Schuman. (EN# 460-9):



In this first issue, Schuman's nose and forehead dominate the picture. Adenauer's picture is full face. Is there a subtle imagery going on here?

Correos (Spanish Post) is issuing a series of stamps intended to honor the so-called "Founding Fathers of Europe". Konrad Adenauer, Jean Monnet, Winston Churchill, Robert Schuman, Alcide de Gasperi, Paul-Henri Spaak, Walter Hallstein and Altiero Spinelli.

BULGARIA 1v

Issue date 9 July 2021

**Three Seas Initiative
(3SI) Summit In
Sofia**



3SI is a forum of twelve states, in the European Union, running along a north–south axis in Central and Eastern Europe. The Initiative aims to create a regional dialogue and strengthen inter-connectivity among the member states.

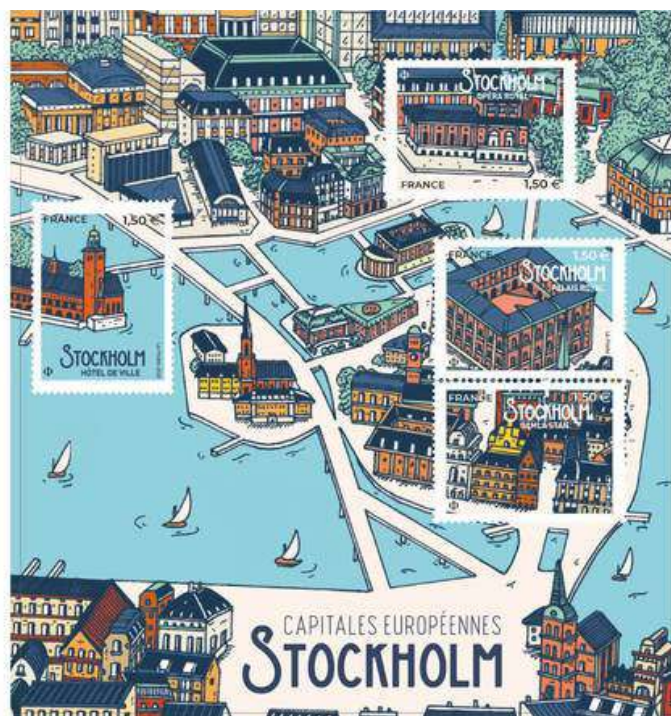
The initiative gets its name from the three seas that border the region: the Baltic, Black, and Adriatic Seas. The twelve states that are part of the initiative are Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia.

— from the Atlantic Council website

FRANCE ss

Issue date 29 March 2021

Capitals of Europe — Stockholm



New Issues
European Anniversaries and Events

PORTUGAL 1v + ss

Issue date 9 June 2021

Portugal's Presidency of the Council of the EU



Portugal will be presiding over the Council of the European Union for the fourth time. The first was in 1992.

PORTUGAL 1v + ss

Issue date 5 February 2021

NATO Tiger Meet 2021



Since 1961, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has held a gathering of air force squadrons for an annual exercise. The **NATO Tiger Meet** (NTM) is one of Europe's most famous and loved among the aviation enthusiasts community, multinational exercise attended by squadrons sporting Tiger emblems. Although it usually includes Spotters/Media Day and, sometimes, an Open Day for general public, NTM is not an air show; all types of air-to-air and air-to-ground and a wide variety of support missions are part of each Tiger Meeting, whose goals are the "creation of a high-level tactical exercise, where participants can train realistically." Many of the aircraft have Special Tails or flamboyant tiger-themed paint schemes.

— from *theavionist.com* and *natotigers.org*

New Issues
European Sports
EURO 2020 European Football Championship



The tournament, held in 11 cities in 11 UEFA countries, was originally scheduled from 12 June to 12 July 2020, but was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic in Europe and rescheduled for 11 June to 11 July 2021.

It kept the name UEFA Euro 2020, just as did the Tokyo Olympics 2020.



The official mascot of the European Football Championship **Euro-2020** is a cheerful and good-natured teenager *Skillzy*, who loves free-style, beautiful tricks with the ball and likes to compete in their performance.

GERMANY 1v in a ms of 10v

Issue date
 10 June 2021



HUNGARY ss

Issue date 4 June 2021



UKRAINE 1v in a ms of 9v

Issue date
 11 June 2021



Puskás Arena, Budapest

ISLE OF MAN 8v, each in its own ms of 8v

Issue date 11 July 2021



Host arenas; the same artistry as Hungary.

TURKEY 4v in a ms of 10v

Issue date
 11 June 2021



New Issues
European Sports
 EURO 2020 European Football Championship



ITALY 2v
 Issue date
 11 June 2021



Issue date
 6 August 2021



The second stamp was issued to mark a very special occasion:
 Italy defeated England in overtime (note the goalie) to win their 2nd European Championship (the first was 53 years ago, in 1968).

RUSSIA 3v se-tenant in a ms of 3 sets



ALBANIA 2v se-tenant in a ms of 4 sets
 Issue date 11 June 2021



Albania did not play in the games.



Skillzy was billed as the UEFA's first interactive mascot, who was described as ...”marrying the traditional life-sized mascot with a more interactive figure for the modern day.” Here he is seen in full human form. FanBuzz called him “the dumbest mascot in human history.” We report, you decide.

New Issues
European Sports
 European Athletic Championships

POLAND 1v
 Issue date 28 May 2021



European Athletic Championships in Silesia



The 2021 European Athletics Team Championships Super League were held in Chorzów, Poland from 29 to 30 May 2021. Final rankings were Poland (1), Italy (2) and Great Britain (3).

— from Wikipedia

ESTONIA 1v
 Issue date
 12 July 2021



U23 and U20 European Athletic Championships in Tallinn

The U23 (Under 23) and U20 events had been planned for Bergen, Norway in 2020, but the Covid-19 pandemic intervened. The new venue chosen for 2021 was Tallinn, Estonia. U23 Medals winner was Ital; U20 went to Great Britain.

— from Wikipedia

New Issues
European Cooperation

KYRGYZSTAN EXPRESS POST (KEP)
TURKEY

1v in a ms

Issue date 21 December 2020

Bishkek Main Mosque of Imam al Sarakhsi

Joint Issue



Bishkek Main Mosque is one of the largest mosques in Central Asia. Each of the four minarets is 70 meters high. The total area of the facility is 3.5 hectares (8,649 acres), which is enough to accommodate 8,000 people inside and up to 20 thousand people outside.

— from *Kyrgyzstan Express Post*

BULGARIA ss

Issue date 19 November 2020

Friendship with Kazakhstan



The stamps picture the 85th birth anniversary of Abay Kunanbaev and 1500th birth anniversary of Al-Farabi. An equal number (1900) of sheets were printed on ungummed paper and numbered 1-1900.

KYRGYZSTAN EXPRESS POST (KEP)
UKRAINE

2v se-tenant

Issue date 9 December 2020

Traditional Jewelry Joint Issue



A tumar is a traditional Kyrgyz chest adornment, which had an important sacred significance. In Arabic, the word "tumar" means prayer.

A dukach is a traditional ornamental pendant of Ukrainian women. Its name comes from the word "ducat" - a prestigious and widely accepted coin of the ancient world.

— from *Kyrgyzstan Express Post*

ITALY ss
SAN MARINO ss

Issue date 1 June 2021

Centenary of the Detachment of the Carabinieri in San Marino

Joint Issue



The souvenir sheet shows a Carabiniere next to a Gendarme, both in full dress uniform, in front of the Palazzo Pubblico of San Marino. On the top left corner, there is the coat of arms of the Carabinieri with the Italian tricolor band, next to that of the Gendarmeria with the white and light blue ribbon. The issue celebrates and strengthens the historical relationships of collaboration and esteem between the Corps of Carabinieri and Gendarmeria.

— from *the San Marino Filatelico*

New Issues
2021: European Year of Rail



AUSTRIA 1v

Issue date
20 August 2021

A section of a rail switch.
The blue color represents
the flag of the EU, of
which the stars can be seen in the lower left.



And of course, the usual sampling of
Caveat



GUINEA 2ss

GU-21152a,b

Issue date
25 February 2021

TOGO 2ss

TG-21154a,b

Issue date
25 March 2021

POLAND ss of 6v

Issue date 31 March 2021



The Poland Post (Poczta Polska) website calls this simply *Modern Rolling Stock*. The Scott catalog notes the flag in the upper left and the inscription “European Year of Rail,” in English. The logo UTK stands for the Polish Office of Rail Transport.

The following trainsets are depicted:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| PENDOLINO | Pesa DART |
| A tilting train | Intercity train |
| IMPULS | P131 64 |
| Hybrid train | Steam loco c.1939 |
| Stadler FLIRT | Pesa ELF II |
| Multiple Unit trainset | Electric Low Floor |



GUINEA ss

GU-21128a

Issue date
25 February 2021

World Speed Trains



Thalys is on the upper left.



Feature
Report From the Great American Stamp Show

Looks like everyone had a GASS. Your humble editor was unable to attend due to last-minute family matters. Alex submitted the following minutes of the ESU meeting on Saturday, 14 August. They are also posted under "Meetings" in the Members area of our web-site.

11:02 am: Tonny VanLoij (Executive Secretary/Treasurer/Vice President) opened the meeting



L-R: Alex Cwiekalo, ESU Director and Handbook Editor (OH); Steve Chun, ESU Member (AL); Tonny VanLoij, ESU VP, Treasurer and Secretary (CO); Jerome Stark, ESU Member (WA); Sue Rosenberg, ESU member re-instated (NM)

Members Present: Steve Chun (AL); Alex Cwiekalo (OH); Jerome Stark (WA); Tonny VanLoij (CO)

Others Present:
 Sue Rosenberg (NM), former ESU member who will be renewing her membership on-line, and Richard Bryan (FL), attending as a guest.

Richard is looking for some specific San Marino (non-Europa) issues/items. Tonny and he had a short discussion, exchanged business cards and Tonny advised him he would see if he can find any of the items when he's in Europe next month. Richard left shortly thereafter.

Tonny presented his ESU Treasurer's report as of 30 June 2021:

\$3,782.37 Checking, \$25.25 Share.

Bottom line -- we are in good shape, thanks to Tonny's doing the printing, Don's auctions and member donations.

Discussion ensued on the usual topics: How to increase membership, need younger collectors, meeting options, etc.

Jerome talked about a presentation he attended by the Scouts on Stamps (SoS) Society International: *Tools for Leading the Stamp Collecting Merit Badge – Counseling Techniques & Roundtable*. He suggested this might be an opportunity for the ESU to contribute information, stamps, etc. on our topical to better target the merit badge preparation by the scouts. Alex stopped by the SoS table and talked with them about Jerome's suggestion. They were to send a link to their presentation to review and see if there could be any ESU application.

Alex passed around the goodies provided by Dana Roper and Don Smith for attendees to look over and see if there was anything they liked and/or needed.

Tonny thanked everyone for attending the meeting and we adjourned at 11:48 am.

Action Item: Tonny and Alex to hammer out the details that will allow Alex to access the ESU main account. This will facilitate transitioning Treasurer duties from Tonny, who has a lot on his plate, to Alex.

Brag Note: Tonny won a Large Gold!!! Attaboy, Tonny. More Details elsewhere in this issue.



New Issues
with **SCOTT** catalog numbers

From Linns' July and August Special Editions
— Don Smith

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>SCOTT #</u>	<u>DATE OF ISSUE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Albania	3039-40	22-Feb-21	Europa 2020, 3040 ss; 3040a: bklt pane 2 each 3039-40
Andorra (Sp)	485	5-Nov-20	Heritage site, joint issue w/Fr. Andorra 828
Bosnia-Herz.	831d	8-May-20	Europa 2020, bklt pane 3 each 831a-b
Bosnia-Herz.	839	14-Dec-20	Dayton Peace Agreement, sheets 9 + label EN463-24
Bosnia (Croat)	426-7	5-Apr-21	Europa 2021, in sheets of 9 + label, 427a ss
Bosnia (Serb)	636-8	3-Sep-20	Europa 2020, 636-7 in sheets 8 + label, 638 sheet of 4
Bosnia (Serb)	657-9	15-Apr-21	Europa 2021, 659 sheet of 4
Bulgaria	4938	29-Jun-20	Europa 2020, s-t pair, in sheets of 9 + labels, 4939e ss, 4939n bklt pane of 8 (smaller than 4938)
Bulgaria	4941	25-Aug-20	Black Sea Maritime Agenda EN 464-1
Bulgaria	non-Scott	Nov-20	Friendship w/Kazakhstan ss in limited quantity with and without gum.
Bulgaria	4963	23-Dec-20	European Space Agency Lagrange Mission ss EN 464-16
Croatia	1223-4	7-May-21	Europa 2021
Czech Republic	3860	15-Feb-21	Visegrad Group, joint w/ Hungary 4582, Poland 4528, Slovakia 870 EN 463-12
Faroe Islands	778	26-Apr-21	SEPAC 2021 ss
Faroe Islands	784-5	26-Apr-21	Europa 2021
Germany	3214	6-May-21	Europa 2021
Hungary	4594	5-May-21	Europa 2021, se-tenant vert. pair a-b; Issued in ms of 2 pairs
Italy	3666	21-Sep-20	Padua, European Capital of Volunteerism
Italy	3673	28-Sep-20	Vatican Security, joint w/Vatican City
Kazakhstan	946	30-Dec-20	Europa 2020
Moldova	1062-3	17-Aug-20	Europa 2020, 1063a, ss 2 each 1062-63
Poland	4528	15-Feb-21	Visegrad Group, joint w/Czech Rep. 3860, Hungary 4562, Slovakia 870
Poland	4538	31-Mar-21	European Year of Rail, sheet of 6 different trains
Russia	8238	28-Feb-21	Accession to Council of Europe EN 464-16
Slovenia	1425	4-Dec-20	Tour de France Bicycle Race EN 462-11
Slovenia	1438	28-May-21	European Region of Gastronomy
Slovenia	1439	28-May-21	European Congress of Mathematics EN464-17
Slovenia	1440-1	28-May-21	Europa 2021, in sheets of 8 + label
Spain	4496	19-Mar-21	Euro Coin
Sweden	2864a	13-Nov-20	Norden 2020, self-adhesive bklt, vert. strip of 5 a-e 2864f bklt of 10 EN461-6
Sweden	2867	14-Jan-21	Europa 2021, self-adhesive
Switzerland	1807-8	6-May-21	Europa 2021, 1808a pair 1807-08

Continued on next page



New Issues
 with **SCOTT** catalog numbers
 — cont'd
 From Linns' July and August Special Editions
 — Don Smith



Continued from previous page

COUNTRY	SCOTT #	DATE OF ISSUE	DESCRIPTION
Turkey	3708	9-May-20	Europa 2020
Turkey	3716	11-Jul-20	EuroMed 2020 sheet of 3 EN460-6
Turkey	3733	3-Nov-20	Diplomatic Relations w/Russia, joint w/Russia 8214 EN 461-6
Turkey	3737	21-Dec-20	Diplomatic Relations w/Kyrgyzstan, joint w/KEP EN 465-16
Ukraine	1241	22-Jan-20	Battle of Donetsk Cyborgs EN 458D-23
Ukraine	1252	25-Jun-20	Europa 2020, bklt pane of 1 stamp footnoted only
Ukraine	1280	8-Dec-20	Woman/Jewelry, joint issue w/Kyrgyzstan EN 465-16
Vatican City	1754	10-Nov-20	Diplomatic Relations w/European Union, CE
Vatican City	1755-7	10-Nov-20	Christmas, joint w/Austria (1757 a ss of 2)

Feature
 Europa Briefs



Attaboy Dept.: Our VP/Secretary/Treasurer Tony VanLoij won a Large Gold at the Great American Stamp Show for his exhibit:

"The Post of Thurn & Taxis, 18th Century And Ending in 1867"

Congratulations on, as he put it, "Joining the Big Boys." Nice job! ■



Article

NATO's Organizational Structure — Marcel van Graven

The following article is taken from the Issue #137 of our sister publication *Grenzenloos* (Without Borders).

This article really should have been written by our NATO specialist, Piet Alderliesten. With his NATO collection he has twice won large silver at international exhibitions, and at the national level several times bronze, silver and large silver.



Unfortunately he recently decided to exit philately. We respect his decision but will miss his NATO knowledge quite a bit. Just before this decision he asked me to publish the information in the following article.

(Editor's note: Piet Alderliesten, was also a long time ESU member until he liquidated his collection in 2016.)

NATO headquarters

As is well known, NATO was founded on 4 April 1949. Signatories were Belgium, Canada, France, Luxembourg, Netherlands, United Kingdom, the US, Denmark, Iceland, Italy, Norway and Portugal. They were followed later by Turkey, Greece, Germany and Spain.



Palais deChaillot, Paris, UNNY 1960



Port Dauphine, Paris, France 1959

The very first location of NATO headquarters was in London. It then moved to the Palais de Chaillot in Paris in 1952, then to Porte Dauphine in Paris in 1959. After France withdrew from military cooperation in 1966 NATO decided to move from France. Since 1967, NATO has been located in Brussels on the Bourgetlaan, on the other side of the Avenue Bourget the new NATO headquarters built in 2010. The European Military Command Center (SHAPE) is located in Casteau, Hainaut.

Before discussing the organizational structure mentioned in the preamble, let me tell you a little bit about its history (i.e. NATO, not the preamble. –ed.)



St.Laurent Harry S Truman George C. Marshall

In April 1948, Canadian and American statesmen initiated talks for a common defense system for the Atlantic region between the countries of North America and the "Western Union", a partnership established after WWII consisting of the United Kingdom, France, and the BENELUX countries. Negotiations between the parties lasted from July to September 1948 and resulted in the treaty being drawn in Washington on 4 April 1949. At the time it had become 12 countries (NATO currently has 28 member states).

The treaty takes its name from the location of the partners around the northern part of the Atlantic Ocean.

Article

NATO's Organizational Structure — cont'd

Organization structure

The North Atlantic Council consists of representatives of NATO member states. The Council is the only official governing body, directly in accordance with Article 9 of the North Atlantic Treaty. Its task is to work towards the basic goals of the North Atlantic treaty: peace and security of the member states.

Because the military commander in chief of NATO is traditionally an American, the secretary General of NATO so far has been a European. But that is not a certainty.

In addition to chairing the Council, the secretary general carries the role of general representative of NATO to international meetings.

Overview secretary-generals from 1957:

- 1957 - 1961 Paul Henri Spaak (Belgium)
- 1961 - 1964 Dirk Stikker (Netherlands)
- 1964 - 1971 Manlio Brosio (Italy)
- 1971 - 1984 Joseph Luns (Netherlands)
- 1984 - 1988 Peter Carrington (England)
- 1988 - 1994 Manfred Wörner (Germany)



Dean Acheson Lester B. Pearson Pierre Mendès France

Dean Acheson was President of the Council in 1949-1950, Pearson in 1951-1952 and Mendes France 1953-1954. In February 1952, North Atlantic Council established the position of secretary general to manage all civilian agencies of the organization, control its civilian staff, and serve the North Atlantic Council. The British Lord Ismay was the first secretary-general; he retired in 1957.



Joseph Luns Manfred Wörner (right)

After Ismay, Paul-Henri Spaak, an international diplomat and former prime minister of Belgium, was selected as the second secretary general. Unlike Ismay, Spaak had no



Paul Henri Spaak

military experience, so his appointment represented a "de-emphasis of the strictly military side of the Atlantic Alliance."

- 1994 Sergio Balanzino (Italy)
- 1994—1995 Willy Claes (Belgium)
- 1995 Sergio Balanzino (Italy)
- 1995 - 1999 Javier Solana (Spain)
- 1999 - 2004 George Robertson (England)
- 2004 - 2009 Jaap de Hoop Scheffer (Netherlands)
- 2009 - 2014 Anders Fogh Rasmussen (Denmark)

On 28 March 2014, at the meeting of the NATO member ministers, Jens Stoltenberg, former prime minister and former minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway, was named successor to Rasmussen and appointed on 1 October 2014.

Article

NATO's Organizational Structure — cont'd



Jens Stoltenberg, current secretary-general

It is remarkable that Netherlands' own Joseph Luns is the longest serving secretary-general. . Another remarkable fact is that of the Deputy Secretary-Generals; out of 15, 10 came from Italy.

Military Commander in Chief

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890-1969)

Finally something about the military command structure. The NATO area is divided into 3 command centers. Each command center has underlying assignments. SHAPE (Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe), is the headquarters of the operational forces in European region, established in Paris on 4 February 1951 by General Eisenhower.



General Dwight D. Eisenhower, NATO's first military commander (SACEUR) 1950-1952

Source: NATO collection of Piet Alderliesten, Wikipedia and own collection


Editor's Addendum: The figures shown in this article correspond to the following Scott catalog numbers:

NATO HQ

- Palais deChailot UNNY # 77-8
- Port Dauphine France # 937

Secretary-Generals

- St. Laurent Canada # 592
- Truman USA # 1862
- Marshall USA # 1289
- Acheson USA # 2755
- Pearson Canada # 591
- Mendes France France # 1906
- Spaak Belgium # 1009
- Luns private printing. See EN# 447
- Wörner Moldova # 142
- Eisenhower USA # 1383

Note that these numbers apply only to the illustrations. Truman, Marshall and Eisenhower are depicted on other stamps as well, and not just the USA. Our [NATO checklist](#), in our website under  "Checklists & Stuff" on the Members page, is a good starting point. ■

Shown below is an overview of where the secretary-general fits into the overall scheme of things:



The Back Page
 The Miscellaneous Box — Caroline Scannell

Every 20 years or so I go through my several stamp collections. I'm always surprised to find some link between them. My largest collections are of items related to the UPU, and the Europa issues.

Today PostEurop is considered one of the special postal agreements between postal entities able to negotiate lower postal rates for their members. Others are; Arab Postal Union, African Postal Union, and of course PUMed which issues the EuroMed stamps.

The item depicted here was found among some postal cards ordered in the '90s thru eBay.

According to Google Translate the German text is:
 Each of the seven euro notes represents an era in European cultural history. Elements of iron and glass architecture are evident in the two hundredth. The back shows a railway bridge as it was built in this form all over Europe at the beginning of the 20th century. ■



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