

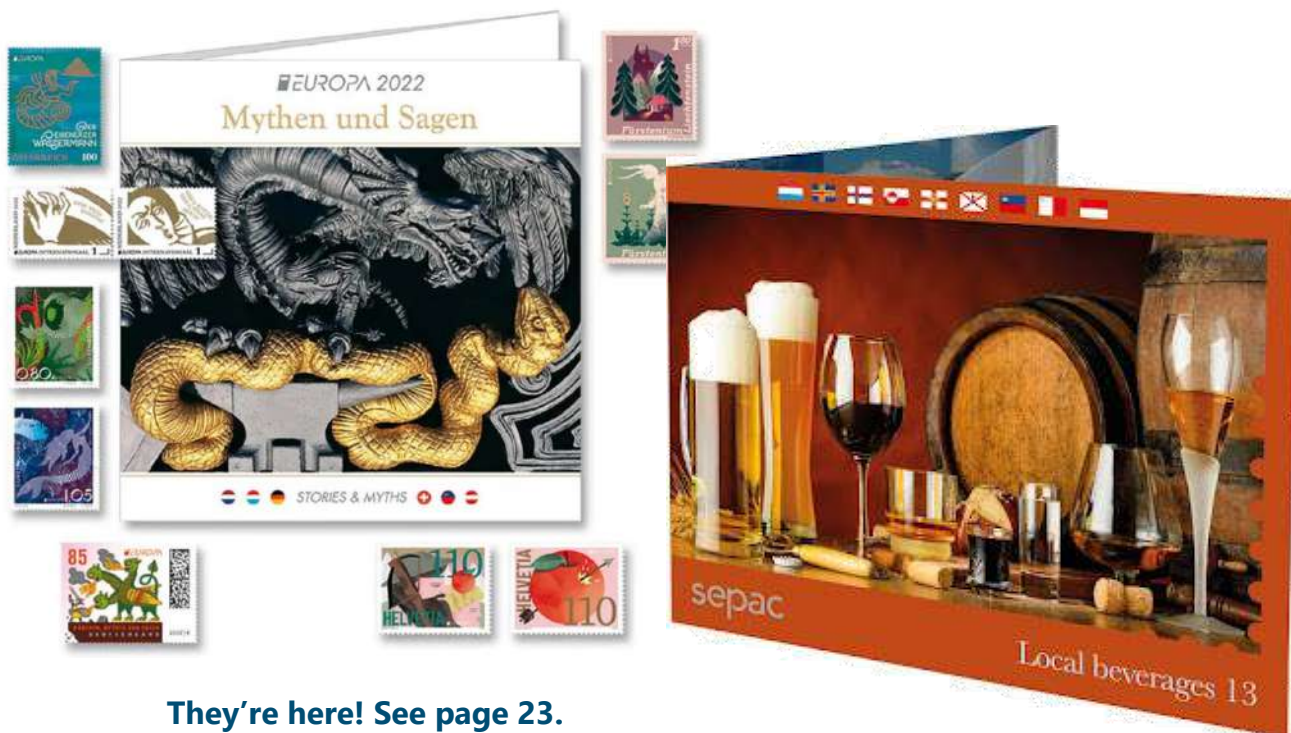
EUROPA NEWS



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



They're here! See page 23.

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New Issues
Europa 2022
Stories and Myths

CZECH REPUBLIC 1v
Issue date 6 April 2022



According to a legend, **Přemysl** was a free peasant who attracted the notice of **Libuše**, daughter of a certain Krok, who ruled over a large part of Bohemia. Libuše succeeded her father, and her councilors demanded that she marry, but because Přemysl was not a nobleman she recounted a vision in which they would follow a horse let loose at a junction, and follow it to find her future husband, making it appear as if it was the will of fate and not her own wish.

Two versions of the legend exist, one in where they are to find a man ploughing a field with one broken sandal, and another in which the man would be sitting in the shade of a single tree, eating from an iron table (his plough). They did so and found Přemysl exactly as foretold.

— from Wikipedia via Europa Blogspot.

SAN MARINO 2v
Issue date 5 April 2022



These stamps depict the protagonists of the legend according to which one day, the pious man **Marino**, coming back from the field in the cave where he lived, saw a big bear near what was left of his faithful donkey, which had become food for the beast. Unafraid of the animal's size and danger, he began to talk to the bear, telling it that it should take the donkey's place and help him in the fields. And so he did!

— Europa Blogspot

IRELAND 2v
Issue date 8 September 2022



According to the Irish folklore tales, **Balor** caused great pain and anguish to the Tuatha Dé Dannan, the other supernatural race in Irish folklore.

The legend centers on Balor having an eye that, when unleashed, could cause instant death or poisoning.

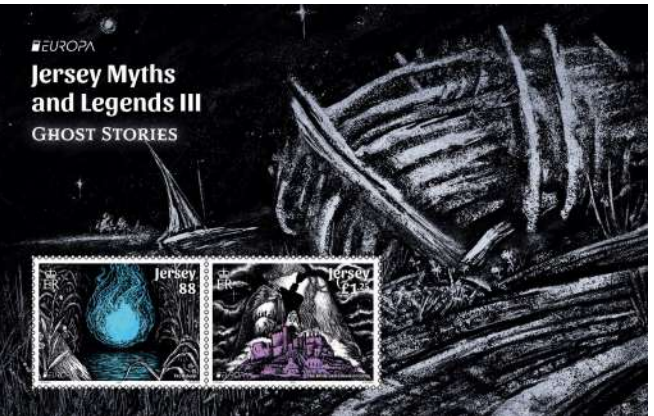
Balor's Poisoned Eye is the main focus of one stamp. The second stamp relates to the legend that claimed Balor had only to look on the landscape to cause damage, such as in the Poisoned Glen in County Donegal.

In both cases, contemporary colors are used to create the impression of poison almost leaping off the stamp.

— Europa Blogspot

New Issues
Europa 2022
Stories and Myths

JERSEY 2v from a set of 6v + ss
 Issue date 16 March 2022



From Jersey Post:
 Continuing from previous Myths & Legends stamp issues (produced in 2016 and 2020), this issue focuses on some of the local ghost stories which have molded Jersey's history and culture. The small island of Jersey is well known for its long and rich history, and stories that span themes of excitement, love, and mystery. These six stamps have been designed by artist Jensine Eckwall, who has interpreted scenes from myths and legends which include, for the Europa subset, the **Bride and Groom of Gorey Castle**, and the **Belenji**.

ISLE OF MAN. 1v from a set of 9v, issued as shown below

Issue date
 12 September 2022



The stamp shows the Europa logo in the lower left corner, and is the only stamp in the set to do so.
 Note that the "O" in Bowie's name has been replaced by the Isle of Man triskelion.



The Europa stamp features David Bowie starring as Jareth the Goblin King in Jim Henson's film **Labyrinth** which ties into the wider 2022 PostEurop theme of Myths and Legends.



For Bowie fans, a mini-book is also issued, with 4 panes of 4 stamps.

New Issues
Europa 2022
 Stories and Myths

MONTENEGRO 1v + ms of same design

Issue date
 24 June 2022



Bukumirsko Lake is situated at an altitude of 1,440 m above sea level and at a distance of only 50 km north from the town of Podgorica. The vistas around the lake are beautiful.

The **Legend of Bukumir Lake** tells us that the Lake was once the home of a dragon, which used to come out of the water at night and frighten the Bukumirs, a nomad tribe that lived in the vicinity. But then the Bukumirs found a way to get rid of the dragon! They lit a large fire under the rocks and threw the huge hot stones into the Lake. The dragon's wings went on fire and he fled away, but not before cursing the Bukumirs. And thus the Bukumirs disappeared, fighting amongst themselves.

— from Stamp Digest

TURKEY 2v

Issue date 9 May 2022



Köroğlu is a semi-mystical hero and bard among the Turkic people who is thought to have lived in 16th century. The name of "Koroghlu" means "the son of the blind man".

The Epic of Köroğlu is a legend prominent in the oral traditions of the Turkic peoples. It exists in many variants in a number of different Turkic languages and is common to several different cultures. A theme common to nearly all versions is that of the hero —Köroğlu, literally "son of the blind man", defending his clan or tribe against threats from outside.

In many of the versions, Köroğlu earns his name from the wrongful blinding of his father, an act for which the son takes his revenge and which initiates his series of adventures. He is portrayed as a bandit and a troubadour.

— from academic.com



To the left is a stamp issued by Russia featuring the Azerbaijan epic poem "Köroğlu", from the series *Epic poems of the USSR*

New Issues
Europa 2022
Stories and Myths

AZERBAIJAN 2v+2v se-tenant in a booklet pane of 4 sets (shown) with straight edges. Also a ms

Issue date 16 June 2022



Tepegöz - In Turkic mythology, Tepegöz is a legendary creature who has only one eye on his forehead – a kind of cyclops. He is an ogre that appears in the Book of Dede Korkut, a famous epic story of the Oghuz Turks.

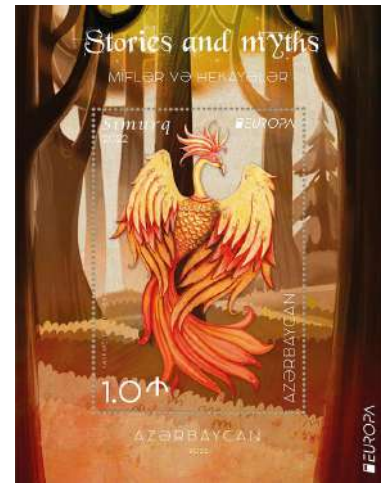
Div or **dev** are monstrous creatures within Middle Eastern lore. Most of their depictions derive from Persian mythology, integrated to Islam and spread to surrounding cultures including Armenia, Turkic countries and Albania. Although they are not explicitly mentioned within canonical Islamic scriptures, their existence was well accepted by most Muslims just like that of other supernatural creatures. They exist alongside with jinn and shayatin within South- and Central Asia demon-beliefs.

They are described as having a body like that of a human, only of gigantic size, with two horns upon their heads and teeth like the tusks of a boar. Powerful, cruel and cold-hearted they have a particular relish for the taste of human flesh. Some use only primitive weapons, such as stones; others, more sophisticated, are equipped like warriors, wearing armor and using weapons of metal. Despite their uncouth appearance - and in addition to their great physical strength - many are also masters of sorcery, capable of overcoming their enemies by magic and afflicting them with nightmares.

— Continued next column

— continued from previous column:

Smurgh is a benevolent, mythical bird in Persian mythology and literature. It is sometimes equated with other mythological birds such as the phoenix. The figure can be found in all periods of Iranian art and literature



and is also evident in the iconography of Georgia, medieval Armenia, the Eastern Roman Empire, and other regions that were within the realm of Persian cultural influence.

—Wikipedia via Europa Blogspot

MONACO 1v

Issue date 9 May 2022



On the night of 8 January 1297, **François Grimaldi** (*il Malizia*, the malicious), disguised as a Franciscan monk, took back the fortress of Monaco from the Ghibellines by deception (he was dressed as a Franciscan friar).

The event is commemorated on the Monegasque coat of arms, on which the supporters are two friars armed with swords. He held the citadel of Monaco for four years before being chased out by the Genoese. The battle over "the rock" was taken over by his kinsmen. Francesco thus failed to establish Grimaldi's rule over Monaco, but was the first to attempt to do so.

— from Wikipedia et al.

New Issues

EuroMed 2022

MARITIME ARCHEOLOGY OR ANTIQUE CITIES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

We now kick off EuroMed for 2022:

CYPRUS 1v

Issue date
11 July 2022



Cyprus' stamp depicts the monumental stone vase of the Ancient city of **Amathunta**.

Amathunta was founded circa 1050 B.C. at the south coast of Cyprus. In ancient times, it was one of the most important cities-kingdoms. Its geographical location, its rich hinterland and its port, helped it prosper and develop trade relations beyond Cyprus. Two monumental stone vases had been placed during the 7th century B.C. on the acropolis of Amathunta, outside the temple of Aphrodite. One vase was transferred to the Louvre Museum in 1865, while its broken counterpart is at its place at the top of the acropolis of Amathunta.

—Cyprus Post press release

CROATIA 1v

Issue date
11 July 2022



Pula – Pola was surrounded by ramparts with twelve entrances to the city. To this day, the ramparts on the stretch from the Golden Gate to the Double Gate have been preserved and reconstructed. The Pula amphitheater was built using the monumental stone technique and is one of the older masonry amphitheaters of the Roman Empire. It is the largest, most famous and one of the best preserved monuments of ancient architecture in Croatia.

— from Hrvatska Pošta

SPAIN 1v issued in a "special sheet" of 6 + postal card

Issue date 11 July 2022



The Mediterranean Sea hides under its waters centuries of history of conquests and trade routes between the empires that dominated its shores. The bottom of the sea holds many secrets about the history of mankind.

One of the most famous cases of recent times is that of the ship **Nuestra Señora de las Mercedes**, destroyed by the British navy in 1804 near the coast of Cádiz. The sinking of it was



key to the start of the Trafalgar battle that would ruin the Spanish empire. An American company found the remains of this mythical vessel and seized it. After a tough litigation, the Spanish state recovered them.

— from Stamp Digest



New Issues
EuroMed 2022
MARITIME ARCHEOLOGY OR ANTIQUE
CITIES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

MALTA 2v

Issue date
 11 July 2022



Image of a shipwreck off the coast of Xlendi Bay, by the University of Malta. This ancient shipwreck was found to include a 15m long Phoenician trading vessel dating to the 7th century, together with a handsome cache of ceramic amphorae lying partially exposed on the seabed. Given the date of the wreck, the site was considered to be extremely well preserved. In 2014, marine archaeologists used an exploratory submarine with instruments and sensors that provided 3D photogrammetric images.



The bell tower of the handsome baroque cathedral of Gozo's Citadel and surrounding buildings, lit up against a dusky sky. In the foreground is the dry-stone walling so characteristic of the Mediterranean. Typical of a fortified city, the Citadel stands out as Gozo's primary landmark. It is rich in buildings of architectural, military, and historic value including the Law Courts, churches, the Bishop's Palace, a handful of museums, grain silos and the Old Prisons. Now a major tourist attraction, a walk around the well-preserved outer walls of the citadel leads to commanding views of the surrounding countryside and urban areas.

— from Malta Post

New Issues
European Anniversaries & Events

Spanish ANDORRA 1v

Issue date
 14 March 2022

Europa Cup Skiing
Finals -
Grandvalira



This is one of the key events in the World Cup calendar, which will be held for the second time in 2023 on these same slopes.

HUNGARY 1v + 4v
 se-tenant

Issue date
 16 May 2022

The 9th European
Botanic Garden
Congress - Budapest
EuroGard 9



Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) is a membership organization, representing botanic gardens in more than 100 countries around the world.

Plant diversity underpins the functioning of all ecosystems, which in turn provide the fundamental support systems upon which all life depends.

— BCGI website

New Issues
European Anniversaries and Events

LITHUANIA SS
LUXEMBOURG SS

Issue date 13 May 2022

EU Capitals of Culture—
 Kaunas and E near Alzette

Joint Issue



Eš near Alzet is often called the brother of Kaunas. It is the second largest city in Luxembourg, located right next to the French border. The steel industry is actively developing in the city - it is not by chance that the giant steel casting furnaces, which operated several decades ago, are considered the city's symbol.

The furnaces themselves have been turned into a tourist attraction for some time now - there is a museum, and the panorama of the city opens from the roof. Part of the events of Ess-sur-Alzette, as the European capital of culture, take place here

— from Lithuanian Post

Novi Sad (Serbia) is also a Culture Capital this year. See EN# 468-7.

POLAND stationery

Issue date 29 June 2022

30th Anniversary of Polish-Slovenian Diplomatic Relations



SPAIN 1v

Issue date 29 May 2022

40 Years a Member in NATO



Spain, since joining the organization in 1982, has been a reliable, safe and committed ally with the Atlantic Alliance and the values it represents.

The Torreon de Ardo NATO Air Operations Center (CAOC-TJ) has its headquarters in Spain, which controls the airspace of the southern half of Europe together with other military capabilities such as Command and Control entities, as well as the High Availability Land Headquarters in Butera (Valencia), or the HRF (M) High Availability Maritime Headquarters in Rota (Cádiz)..

— from Correos (Spanish Post)

New Issues
European Cooperation incl. Europa Sports

CROATIA 1v

Issue date
 20 July 2022

**Ceremonial
 Opening of the
 Pelješki Bridge**



The Pelješki Bridge, 2,404 meters long, crosses the sea strait – the Small Ston Channel. The project Road connection with southern Dalmatia realizes the strategic interest of the Republic of Croatia, and at the same time it is located on one of the European transport corridors, so it is largely financed from the funds of the European Union.

— from *Hrvatska Pošta*

LUXEMBOURG 1v

Issue date

Rural Tourism 2021



This stamp pays tribute to the efforts of the APTR (Association Luxembourgeoise pour la Promotion du Tourisme Rural), which has continued to expand its range of services for 30 years, and was able to host the general assembly of the association in 2021, the year in which the European Federation of Rural Tourism celebrated its 30th anniversary.

— from *Post Luxembourg*

CROATIA 2v

POLAND 2v se-tenant

Issue date 2 December 2021

Treasures of the Earth

Joint Issue



**Bochnia Salt Mine
 in Poland**

The greatest treasure of the Bochnia mine is its unique therapeutic microclimate, which has healing properties that are very necessary for the treatment of allergies, rhinitis, catarrh (secretion) in the throat and laryngitis, as well as chronic infections of the upper respiratory tract and skin allergies. The Bochnia salt mine was included on the UNESCO World Heritage List on 23 June 2013.



Solana "Ston"

Ston's salt is clean, shiny and extremely white in color, which speaks of the purity of the sea from which it is extracted. Salt also has an increased concentration of natural iodine, which is necessary to prevent goiter that occurs in people with iodine deficiency in the thyroid gland. The quality of the salt is exceptional because there are no anti-caking and moisture additives.

— from *Wikipedia*

POLAND 1v

Issue date 15 July 2022

**European Universities
 Games in Łódź**



The European Universities Games (EUG) is an international multi-sport event, organized every two years for university athletes by the European University Sports Association (EUSA). The first edition was held in 2012 in Cordoba, Spain.

— from *Wikipedia*

New Issues
Peace and Solidarity

As we predicted, many legitimate countries took up the cause for embattled Ukraine.

LITHUANIA 1v issued in a ms of 4v + 2 labels as shown

Issue date 6 May 2022



The labels say that half the cost of the stamps (€1) will be donated to the "Blue/Yellow" Foundation.

In order to issue a unique postage stamp, Lithuania Post organized its own competition, which was won by the creative agency "Autoriai"; the stamp was designed by Eglė Kirlytė.

"At the moment, all thoughts are about Ukraine and its people, I want to express my support for it in my own way. Since my language is often visual, the Lithuanian Post competition encouraged me to realize those ideas and create something that is only for Ukraine, says the author of the postage stamp, E. Kirlytė. - Sometimes I think that I would just like to hug all the people of Ukraine and say that we are with them, we see everything and we want them to be free and happy. So, symbolically, I decided to depict people hugging each other, which represent peace, warmth and love."

— from Lithuanian Post

CROATIA 1v

Issue date
12 April 2022



On 24 February 2022, the armed forces of the Russian Federation launched an unprovoked aggression against Ukraine, which the Republic of Croatia strongly condemned, reiterating its support for the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, which is also a fundamental determinant of relations and cooperation between Republic of Croatia and Ukraine. The stamp design is a photo of a yellow rapeseed field and a blue sky as a symbol of the Ukrainian flag.

— from Hrvatska Pošta

LUXEMBOURG 1v in a ms of 8v

Issue date ?



MENG Post (Personalized sheet) for Ukraine:

"All proceeds from the sale of these stamps will be donated by POST Luxembourg to the ASBL LUKRAINE to support them in their actions in favor of refugees from Ukraine."

Two sheets were issued. Face value 9.60 € for internal mail, and face value 14.40 € for international.

Single stamps can be found on auction sites.

New Issues
Peace and Solidarity

UKRAINE 1v+label

Issue date 23 May 2022

Russian Warship—“DONE”

The “New York Salute” issue was re-issued with the Russian warship missing. A label is attached showing the original picture stamped with the word DONE. This reflects what actually happened shortly after the picture was taken—Ukrainean forces sank the Russian vessel. The stamps were issued in miniature sheets. The W stamp is issued in 2x3 format; the F stamp is issued in 3x2 format.



Also as predicted, there were knockoffs and stamp-like labels. Not always easy to sort them out.

NETHERLANDS 1v

Issue date GOK (God Only Knows)



Like many countries, Netherlands provides a facility for users to make their own stamps, of which the above is an example. This nice piece of artwork has a “surcharge” of 2€ per “stamp”, which may or may not ever find its way to the people of Ukraine. This item showed up on eBay.

New Issues
Peace and Solidarity

The 19 July edition of Linn’s Weekly Stamp News ran a good article by Denise McCarty about Ukraine postage stamps. It seems that the Powers That Be have decided to make a series of stamps with images of victory over Russia. Quoting from the article:

Another iconic image of Ukraine’s resistance to the Russian invasion will appear on Ukrainian stamps to be issued this July. The new stamps will show a tractor pulling a disabled Russian tank. Like the two previous “Finger” stamps, the new design is the result of a contest run by Ukrposhta.



Anastasia Bondarets won the contest, which saw over 1,500 entries. Bondarets said that in creating her design she was inspired by Ukrainian farmers who were helping the military. She said that “this tractor, which is carrying broken enemy equipment to be repaired and put into service by our military, is an allegory of how every Ukrainian does everything in his power, to the best of his ability, to bring our victory closer.”

Tractors became a symbol of Ukrainian resistance after videos and cartoons showing them hauling Russian equipment were shared online. Photos were also shown, but the “fact-checker” Snopes said that while many of the images were genuine, others had been ‘incorrectly captioned.’ Ukrposhta described Bondarets’ design of a Ukrainian tractor pulling an abandoned Russian tank as showing “real events that took place in the Mykolayiv region.



From the more than 1,500 entries received in the contest, Ukrposhta selected five finalists for the public vote. Bondarets’ design, which is no. 4 in the illustration, received the most votes, followed respectively by the entries marked 2, 1, 3 and 5.

In Bondarets’ illustration the tractor is flying a Ukrainian flag. Also, the artwork mirrors Ukraine’s national colors, showing the scene of the tractor and tank in blue, surrounded by yellow. Ukrposhta said it would issue two stamps in July, 3 million for domestic mail, and 2 million for international mail.

According to my new issue dealer, the first two stamps have proven to be popular and standing orders were being rationed. Whether this will hold for the second and subsequent issues remains to be seen. It will probably depend on how long the Resistance holds. If this goes on for awhile, it’s not beyond the realm of possibility that some album page makers — e.g. Lighthouse — will provide them.

* * *

Just as we are wrapping up, we have word that the stamp has been issued. Titled “**Good Evening. We Are From Ukraine.**” the stamp was issued in 2 ms of 6 (2x3 and 3x2) on 28 July 2022.



New Issues
Peace and Solidarity

JERSEY 6v self-adhesive
Issue date 18 July 2022
"We stand with Ukraine"



The popular "Post & Go" series. This one shows the Crest of Jersey stamps vended from Jersey Post's JE03 Post & Go kiosks featuring the overprint: We stand with Ukraine, to show continued solidarity with the people of Ukraine following the Russian invasion and ongoing conflict.

Since March, Jersey Post has waived postage charges for mail addressed to Ukraine to help families and loved ones caught up in the conflict to stay in touch.

UKRAINE ss
Issue date 24 August 2022
"Free, Unbreakable, Invincible"



The stamp in the sheet is imperforate

New Issues
Europa 2023

The Europa Blogspot has just sent word that Ukraine is also soliciting entries for the 2023 Europa issue, with the new theme "Peace—the highest value of humanity." No sooner did we see that, we learned that the Ukrainian competition had ended.

Entrants that made the cut are shown below. The winner, on the left with sunflowers, will be submitted to PostEurop as Ukraine's official entry for the Europa 2023 stamp.



It is reminiscent of stamps issued during WW II, and so may have too much of a wartime theme than Europe as a whole would be looking for. Then again, it may be just what Europe *is* looking for, as Russia tightens the screws on the Nordstream I pipeline.

Come to think of it, what's been announced is a common *theme*, not a common design. That would mean that every country is free to interpret that concept in any way they choose. That would make for an interesting tableau. My personal favorite has always been the dove with a shaft of wheat in its beak. I saw my first interpretation of that in 1957, on a first day cover



One other interpretation is the one used a couple of issues ago: This will get interesting!

Article—New Issue
Patron the Dog

UKRAINE ss on self-adhesive paper

Issue date 30 August 2022

“Patron the Dog”

Quite honestly, I’m not sure how this relates to the Europa topic per se, but a case can be made that this relates to the ‘Peace and Solidarity’ sub-topic that we’ve been reporting on.

The following text is lifted straight from Ukrposhta. Read it and decide for yourself. And let us know what you think. Your humble editor can be reached at droper729@gmail.com.



This postal issue is dedicated to Patron the dog - a favorite of adults and children, a mascot of Ukrainian rescuers, a welcome guest at public events.

Since the beginning of the war, a Jack Russell terrier nicknamed Patron has served in the team of pyrotechnicians of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine.

Two years ago, the head of the pyrotechnic group of the Main Department of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine in the Chernihiv region gave his son a puppy. The four-legged dog was being prepared for exhibitions, but because of the war he had to become a sapper.

In addition to serving, Patron is present at press conferences, meetings with foreign leaders, and also visits children in hospitals. Patron was awarded the "For devoted service" medal.

"Pes Patron" - the first charity postage stamps of Ukraine, issued with an additional denomination of 8 UAH. Charitable contributions collected in this way by Ukrposhta will be used to purchase a mechanized demining machine and provide assistance to animal shelters.

For those of you who might be wondering, a sapper is defined as “a soldier responsible for tasks such as building and repairing roads and bridges, laying and clearing mines, etc.”

Article
Spanish Andorra 1972 Forgeries — Haim Bassan

In EN 470 pp 12-13 there is an article dealing with illegal “Europa” stamps. I want to point out in this small article information about a forgery of one of the more valuable stamps of the “Europa” collections - 1972 Andorra Spanish stamp.

First some background:

Andorra is a tiny Principality located in the Pyrenees mountains that is bordered by Spain and France.

Postal services in Andorra are unique in that the Principality itself does not operate them, but Correos of Spain and La Poste of France operate side by side.

Both postal administrations issue their own postage stamps for use in Andorra and are valid only for use in Andorra.

La Post of France issued the first “Europa” stamp for Andorra on 24 September 1966 with a quantity printing of 720,000 in a sheet layout of 25 (5X5).

Correos of Spain issued their first “Europa” stamp in 1972; below is its identity card:

- Andorra - Spanish 1972 Europa
- 1972 Europa - CEPT. Communications
- Issue Date : 2nd May 1972.
- Designer : Paavo Huovinenn. (Finland)
- Printed by :F.N.M.T. Madrid (Spanish Government Printers)
- Print Process :Photogravure
- Width : 28.5 mm Height : 38 mm
- Perforations :13.0
- Sheet Layout : 80 (10 by 8)
- Quantity Printed and Sold : 200,000
- Date Withdrawn: Sold Out on Day of Issue!



Here is the original stamp

- Scott 62
- Michel 71
- Yvert 64A
- D’Urso 531
- Domfil 972.1

The original stamp was fully sold [200,000 copies] on the day of the issue. Most of it probably was bought by dealers and afterward it was resold to collectors at very high prices.

The fact that almost all the stamps were sold to the dealers explains the reason that there are very few stamps that were postally used. See one example of stamp the was used for mail dated 19 Aug 72:



There are many stamps CTO with the first day of use.

The fact that all the stamps were sold on the first day of issue induced some people to try printing forgeries.

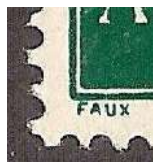
Article
Spanish Andorra 1972 Forgeries — cont'd

Two types of forgeries exist. The first has imprint at the left bottom of the stamp with 'FAUX' [= Fake] and the second without FAUX.



1st type with 'FAUX.

2nd type of forgery stamp without 'FAUX.



The 2 forgery types were printed from the same plates — the first printing with the FAUX and the second type without the FAUX printing in the bottom left. The first type can easily be identified (simply by looking at the bottom left of stamp). The second type is more challenging.

The genuine stamp is printed by photogravure, whilst the forgeries are produced by offset lithography. The original stamp was printed in Sheet of 80 Layout: (10 by 8). The forgeries were printed in a smaller sheet — the number of stamps on a row of the forgery is 7 [instead of 10]



The perforations of the forgeries look to be of the line variety whilst the original is comb, so that the genuine stamp always has neat and equal comb perforations. The different type of perforation of the forged stamp can cause irregular stamp corners.

The most significant difference between the original stamp and the forgery is the clearance of the lettering on the stamps. The original stamp has clear sharp white letters and in the forgeries stamps have pale greenish mist on the white letters in various degrees. It is very distinctive in the small letters of the stamps. The “CEPT” on the top of the fake stamps is pale green and the word “PTAS” under the “8” at the bottom right in the forgeries stamps is nearly covered by the green color of the stamps.

Many collectors and sellers are aware of the FAUX stamps, but the second type of forgery is often overlooked. You can see them on the auction sites today. E.g. I saw today a seller that is aware of FAUX and yet he is offering these stamps under the category of “REPRINT”. It is not. That implies a legitimate stamp. It is not a reprint, it is a forgery. The D’Urso catalog ignores the existence of forgeries or varieties.

Nevertheless, some “Europa” collectors buy this forgery for a few dollars for its curiosity. Mounting these examples side by side can make for an interesting album page.

The Michel catalog mentions that there are forgeries of this stamp focusing on different perforations and that there are also fake FDCs.. I saw one “ FDC” with a very bad postmark; immediately you can notice that it is a very bad attempt to fake a FDC. The original FDC was produced by the Spanish philatelic service. Some FDCs were produced by private dealers; on the next page are some examples.

Article
Spanish Andorra 1972 Forgeries — cont'd



www.delcampe.net

Original FDC Andorra Sp. 1972

outletstamps

Some dealer-applied cachets, many more tasteful than the official one.



Editor's note: after reading Haim's article I ran to my collection and confirmed — I think — that I have an original stamp and FDC. With that aside, I then went to the delcampe auction site to see what was out there. I was surprised to find over 8 pages of material, with prices that ran the gamut. Shown here are just four examples that I plucked out late August.

The first is priced like an original but is it? The second is priced like a fake, and looks it, but is not identified as such. The rest ... well, who knows? Be careful out there. ■



\$49.75

\$4.75

\$15.80

\$35.00

Article
Bidding at auction — a refresher

Auction Manager Don Smith writes:

Dana, Auction 161 was not a good auction. We had only a handful of bidders, and one of those bid on only 2 lots. 3 of the 4 are from Canada. One bidder is a first-timer (a bright spot). 69 lots sold: 28% of the auction. One bidder took 44 lots or 64%.

I am not sure why more members do not bid, as this is a good source of material. There are bargains to be had. Example: a lot that catalogs at \$60 went for \$3.50. That's less than 6% of catalog. Where else can you get such bargains? I have had members tell me they don't know how to bid. After explaining the process they still do not bid. One member told me my prices in the auction catalog are too high. Help!

Director Caroline Scannel is also an active bidder, and she opines:

Maybe we should clarify that the prices given for the stamps are Scott Catalogue Value and bids for less - or more - can be accepted. I remember this was also confusing to me when I started bidding. I use the amounts listed as a guide then, if I really need the stamps, I bid a little more to make sure I get it and I usually get the stamps for *less than my bid and less than the SCV*. I don't know how much material is on hand but it may make sense to change publication dates for the journal to a quarterly and the auctions twice each year.

Your humble editor will weigh in now with his opinion. Firstly, as long as there are bidders and as long as Don is willing (he says he loves doing them) we will have auctions. Let's take a look at the current auction (162) and see how we might bid. A little refresher wouldn't hurt either.

I cut pieces from auction 162 as examples. The first is from page 2:

The numbers on the right are from a recent copy of Scott's catalog, which is the de facto bible in the USA. Years ago, Scott reworked their algorithm so that catalog values would be more in line with dealer retail. They still tend to be on the high side so don't be afraid to bid lower. Some people bid very low and scoop up a load of bargains (remember the person who won 44 lots).

		5.00
	GREECE	
80	** 718-9, EUROPA 1961	0.80
81	** 1139-41, EUROPA 1975	3.20
82	** 1293-4, EUROPA 1974, se-tenant pair	1.75
83	FDC 1422-3, EUROPA 1982, CU	2.50
84	** 1493-4, EUROPA 1984	2.00
85	** 1493-4, EUROPA 1984, se-tenant from sheet	2.00
86	** 1678A, 1679B se-tenant from booklet	8.00
87	** 1715-6, EUROPA 1991, se-tenant	8.00
88	** 1715A-B, EUROPA 1991 se-tenant pair from bkt.	9.00
89	** 1739a, EUROPA 1992, (1738-9 se-tenant)	10.00
90	** 1772-3 EUROPA 1993, se-tenant	9.00
91	** 1873-4, EUROPA 1997, se-tenant	5.75
92	** 1906-7, EUROPA 1998, ae-tenant	5.75
	GREENLAND	
93	** 291-2, EUROPA 1995	5.75
94	** 311, EUROPA 1996	1.75
	GUERNSEY	
95	** 449-51, EUROPA 1991	2.80
96	** 470 high value EUROPA 1992	1.05
97	** 511-4, EUROPA 1993	3.10
	HUNGARY	
98	** 3344-5, EUROPA 1992	9.75
99	** 3388-9, EUROPA 1993	4.25
	ICELAND	
100	o 327, low value EUROPA 1960	0.45
101	o 340, low value EUROPA 1961	0.80
102	o 357-8, EUROPA 1963	1.20
103	o 439, low value EUROPA 1972	0.90
104	** 515-6, EUROPA 1979	4.65
*105	** 573-4, EUROPA 1983	25.50
106	o 640, high value EUROPA 1987	0.70
107	** 698-9, EUROPA 1990	7.50
108	** 749-50, EUROPA 1992	10.00
109	** 770-1, EUROPA 1993	4.65
110	** 860-1, EUROPA 1998	3.60

The second column indicates the condition of the item. ** denotes mint never-hinged. Look at Iceland and you see quite a few marked with an "o", meaning used. There's also an FDC, First Day Cover, under Greece.

Article
Bidding at auction — a refresher cont'd

Let's look at Iceland again, where some catalog values are trending up now that Iceland has stopped printing stamps. Lot #105 is illustrated (note the "*" before the lot number, which means it is illustrated on page 4) and has a fairly high catalog value.



ICELAND			
100	o	327, low value EUROPA 1960	0.45
101	o	340, low value EUROPA 1961	0.80
102	o	357-8, EUROPA 1953	1.20
103	o	439, low value EUROPA 1972	0.90
104	**	515-6, EUROPA 1979	4.65
*105	**	573-4, EUROPA 1983	25.50
106	o	640, high value EUROPA 1987	0.70
107	**	698-9, EUROPA 1990	7.50
108	**	749-50, EUROPA 1992	10.00
109	**	770-1, EUROPA 1993	4.65
110	**	860-1, EUROPA 1993	3.60

That could be a good prospect for snagging a bargain. What should you bid? I think a simple strategy is best. Bid what you are willing to pay. Maybe a teensy bit more. Remember this isn't eBay—you don't see other bids. So relax, send in your bid, and wait to see if you won. Don collects all the bids, and after closing day notifies the winning bidders. If a lot drew multiple bids, then high bidder gets it. If two (or more) bid the same amount, not likely but it happens, then earliest bid wins.

Caroline says she's filled a lot of empty spaces with high quality stamps from these auctions. Your Humble Editor has also had success, in many cases not to fill a space, but to add some item of interest that Don sprinkles around.

One other clipping I want to highlight is shown below. Note that France has a couple of First Day Covers, but underneath them are two listings categorized "MC". These are Maximum Cards, a favorite of European collectors.

FINLAND			
51	**	376-7, EUROPA 1960	1.70
52	**	679-80, EUROPA 1983	11.00
53	FDC	679-80, EUROPA 1983, CU	2.00
54	**	908-9, EUROPA 1993	3.30
55	**	937-8, EUROPA 1994	3.30
56	**	959, EUROPA 1995	1.25
57	**	995, EUROPA 1996	1.25
58	**	1037-8, EUROPA 1997	3.50
FRANCE			
59	**	1874-5, EUROPA 1983	2.35
60	FDC	1925-6, EUROPA 1984, CU (Paris cancel)	3.50
61	FDC	1925-6, EUROPA 1984, CU (Strasbourg cancel)	3.50
62	MC	1925-6, EUROPA 1984, Maximum card, (Paris cancel)	?
63	MC	1925-6, EUROPA 1984, Maxi Card, (Strasbourg)	?
64	**	2329-30, EUROPA 1993	2.70
65	**	2573, EUROPA 1997	1.25
GEORGIA			
66	**	199-200, EUROPA 1998	3.70

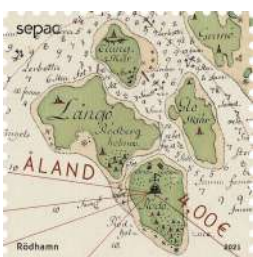
Also, note that for catalog value of the Maximum Cards Don has inserted question marks "??". Translation: he doesn't have a catalog value for these two items from any source. He has no idea. This often indicates some unusual item you may want to add to your collection to add some interest. And get it for a bargain maybe. You won't know unless you bid.

So, why not give it a try? Scan your collection for any stamps you may need, then pick out something funky that makes your collection a little different. Then mail in your bids (snail mail or email) and relax. When the auction concludes Don will notify you of what you've won. Send him your remittance (snail mail via check or email via PayPal) and he sends you your winnings. Easy, right? Having fun? Winning bids will be posted on the web so if you missed out you can see what bid skunked you. No biggie. Better luck next time. Enjoy! ■

Article

Small European Postal Administrations Cooperation (SEPAC) Part 3 — Dana Roper

The stamps featured in the twelfth edition of the special SEPAC folder are entitled 'Old Maps 12.' There are ten participating nations for 2021: Åland, Faroe Islands, Gibraltar, Greenland, Guernsey, Jersey, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta and Monaco. Something about maps seems to attract people; there's usually something interesting behind the map.



Åland chose a nautical chart from 1747 showing national harbor. The harbor has been a protected night harbor for seafarers for several centuries and is today a popular guest harbor.

Jersey Post issued six stamps depicting the cartographic history of Jersey over the last five centuries. A Presentation Folder was and may still be available providing information and technical details of the issue



Greenland's design was created by illustrator and graphic artist Nuka K. Godtfredsen. He was inspired by a historical map of Greenland showing the Gustav Holm and GC Amdrup shipping routes from 1884-85 and 1900, plus maps of the coast northeast of Tasiilaq.



Malta also issued a multi-value set, theirs of four values. This one depicts historical maps of the Maltese Islands produced by different European cartographers. The circled one has the SEPAC logo.



Liechtenstein depicts one of the oldest known maps of the Upper Rhine Valley, probably drawn around 1620 by Swiss cartographer and engineer Hans Conrad Gyger. The watercolor pen and ink drawing shows the catchment area of the Rhine between the Swiss districts of Altstätten and Bad Ragaz with the castles and palaces existing at that time.

Monaco depicts a map of the Principality of Monaco from 1914 showing how urbanization has intensified in a century. New districts have emerged, thanks in particular to median lands reclaimed from the sea.



Article

Small European Postal Administrations Cooperation (SEPAC) Part 3 — cont'd



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. Faroe Islands depicts Münster's map "Septentrionales regiones" from 1578.

Luxembourg issued a single stamp showing the oldest map of the city of Luxembourg from the 16th century.



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



Gibraltar issued five stamps for 2021, showing—what else?- the Rock. These beautifully detailed maps, on display at the Gibraltar National Archives, show the city and fortifications of Gibraltar while also giving us an insight into the 13th and the 14th 'Great Siege' of Gibraltar.

And of course 2021 had a folder: for all the year's SEPAC stamps.



Article

Small European Postal Administrations Cooperation (SEPAC) Part 3 — cont'd

Barely had the ink dried on 2021 stamps than the **2022s** began to be announced. The theme this year is Local Beverages. Aland started it off with freshly squeezed Buckthorn juice.



Jersey depicted Jersey cider, from some of the finest apple orchards in the world.



And of course Greenland, which paid tribute to ... water! Why not? The great Greenland ice sheet supplies some of the best H₂O on the planet.



Unimaginable for many people in large parts of the world, people in the Alpine country like to enjoy fresh water straight from the tap.

The stamp from Liechtenstein shows a simple glass of water.

There are still some stamps to come. One more entry was received in time for this newsletter:



Faroe Islands tipped their hat to Föroya Björ, who for almost a century and a half supplied the Faroese with beverages.

LUXEMBOURG 1v
Issue date 23 August 2022

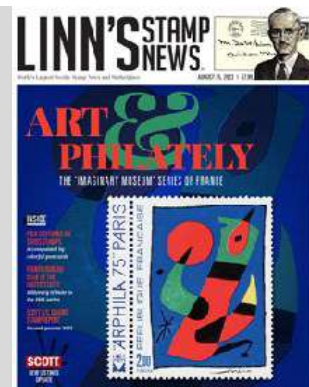


A similar situation is found in little Monaco, who paid a tribute to Monegasque beer, made since 1905 at the Principality's old brewery



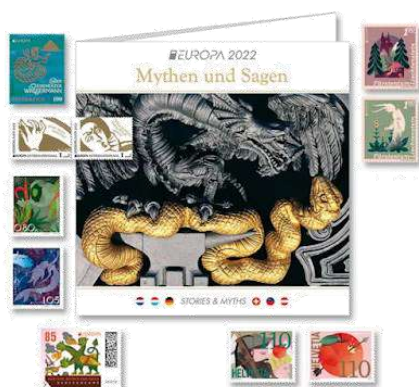
Wine has played an important role in the history of the region, economically and culturally. The geological and geographical diversity makes it possible to raise powerful and racy wines such as Elbling, Pinot blanc and Riesling as well as round and aromatic wines such as Rivaner, Auxerrois and Pinot gris.

— from POST Philately Luxembourg



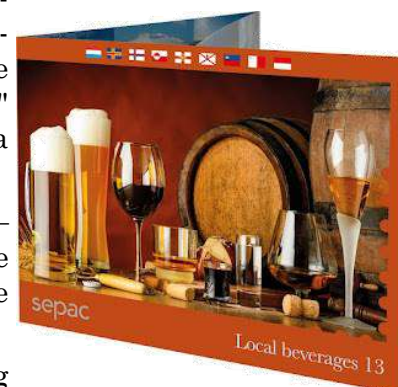
New Issues
with **SCOTT** catalog numbers
From Linns' July & August
Special Editions
— Don Smith

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>SCOTT #</u>	<u>DATE OF ISSUE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Cyprus (Turkish)	832	13-Mar-20	European Soccer Championships
Cyprus (Turkish)	833-4	10-Sep-20	Europa 2020
Cyprus (Turkish)	837-8	15-Jul-21	Europa 2021, 838a ss of 2
Georgia	577	5-Oct-21	Dante
Morocco	1304	12-Jul-21	EuroMed 2021 EN 465-11
Slovakia	899	18-Mar-22	Railway, joint issue w/Czech Republic
Slovakia	903-4	2-May-22	Europa 2022, 904 self-adhesive from bklt 904a (pane of 6)
Spain	4589	22-Mar-22	Two-Euro coin
Switzerland	1865-6	5-May-22	Lakes and Islands, joint w/Croatia EN 469-8
Switzerland	1867	5-May-22	Europa 2022, horiz se-tenant pair 1867a-b
Turkey	3753-4	9-May-21	Europa 2021
Turkey	3757-60	11-Jun-21	European Soccer Championships EN465-14
Turkey	3761	12-Jul-21	EuroMed 2021 EN465-10
Ukraine	1295-6	9-Jun-21	Europa 2021
Ukraine	1297	11-Jun-21	European Soccer Championships EN 465-14
Ukraine	1313	2-Sep-21	Battle of Chocim, w/Lithuania 1190, Poland 4567
Ukraine`	1314	6-Sep-21	Artist Zotow, joint w/Liechtenstein 1844 EN 466-8
Ukraine	1338-9	12-Apr-22	Peace and Solidarity EN 469-3 & 6
Vatican City	1794	16-May-22	St. Luigi Orione, joint w/Italy
Vatican City	1795-7	16-May-22	Europa 2022 , 1797 a ss



The six Germanic countries, Austria - Germany - Liechtenstein - Luxembourg - the Netherlands and Switzerland, have issued their common "Multilaterale" folder containing this year's Europa stamps.

Likewise, the SEPAC folder for 2022 — "Local Beverages 13" — contains the nine SEPAC stamps issued` in 2022. We haven't seen Malta yet.

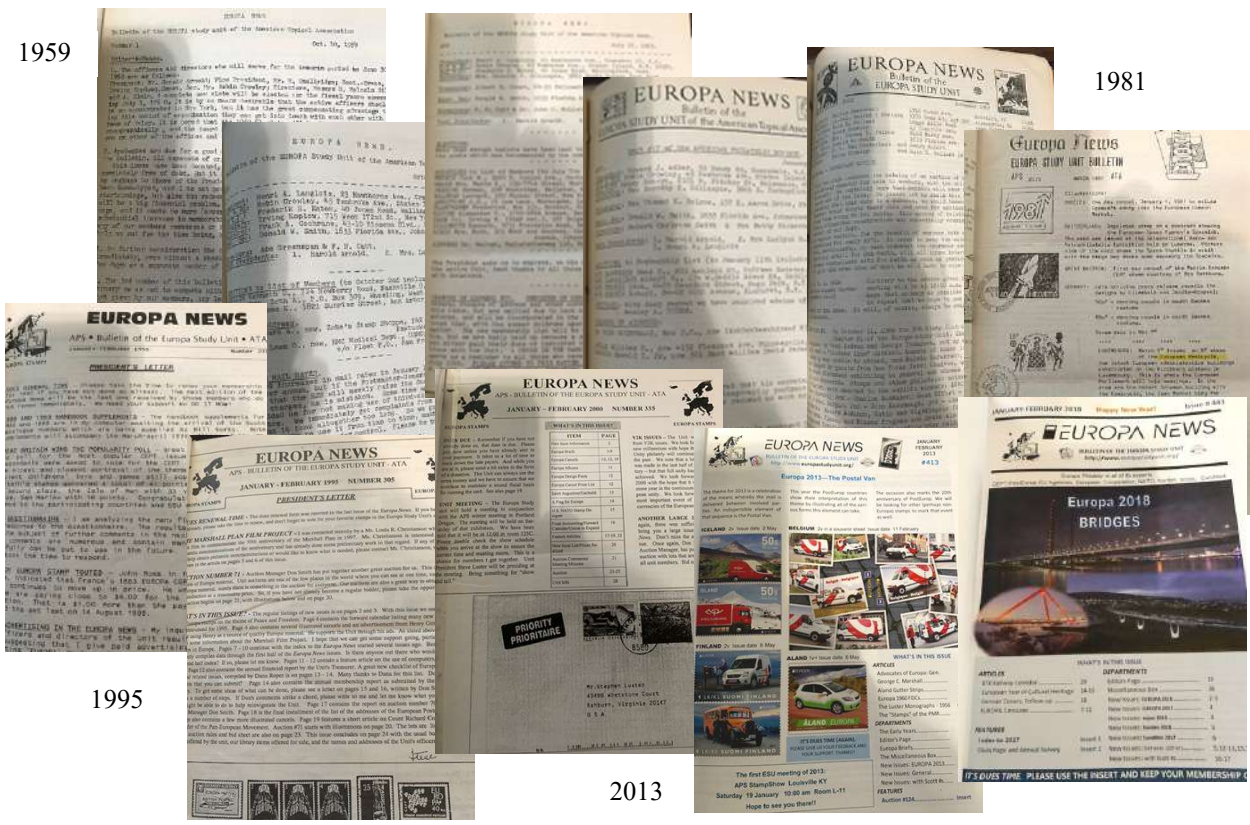


My best experiences have been buying from one of the Tiny Germanic countries

— Liechtenstein or Luxembourg. You can buy both at once, pay a reasonable price and shipping, and get on their new issue newsletter mailing lists.

The Back Page

The Europa News over the years from 1959 to the present. Thanks to support from our members, we have always been stable, purposefully and financially. In the next issue we'll address some changes we'll be making going forward to ensure that we stay that way into the future.



1959

1981

1995

2013

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