

# EUROPA NEWS

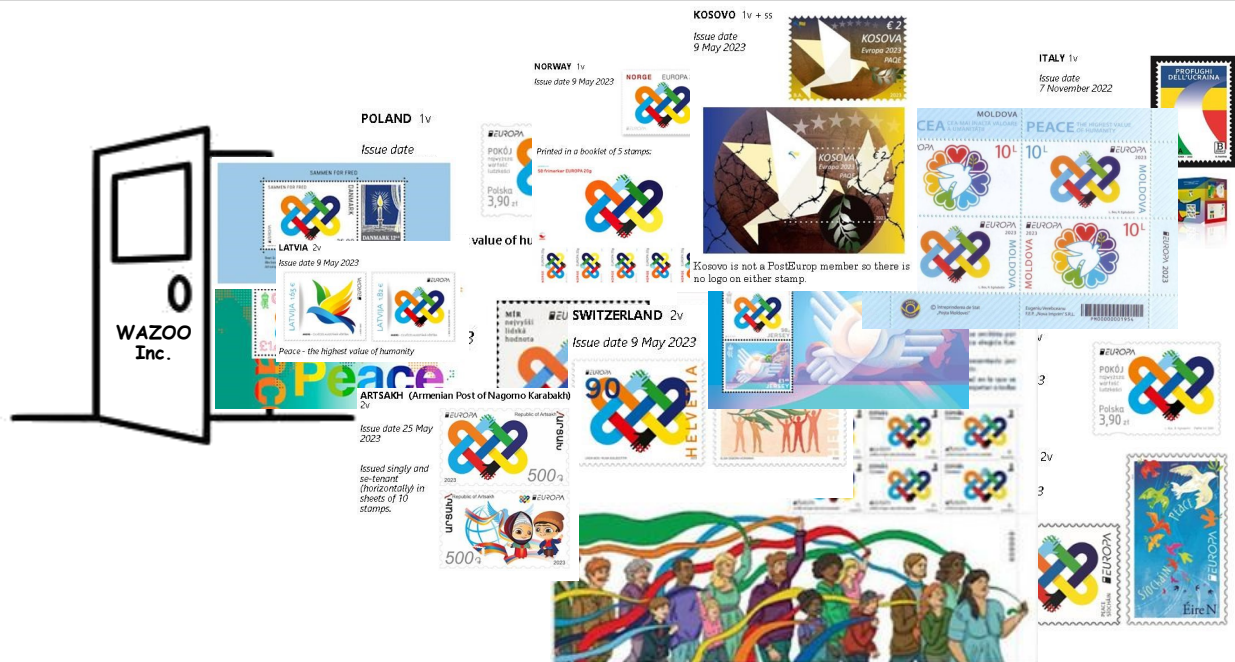


BULLETIN OF THE EUROPA STUDY UNIT  
<http://www.europastudyunit.org/>



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

## EUROPA 2023



## New Issues, Out the Wazoo!

### ARTICLE

**PROPHETS OF EUROPA:**  
**DESIDERIUS ERASMUS**                      **20-23**

**AUCTION # 165,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,INSERT**

### DEPARTMENTS

**NEW ISSUES: EUROPA 2023..... 2-13**  
**NEW ISSUES: SEPAC 2023..... 24**  
**NEW ISSUES: PEACE AND SOLIDARITY 14-15**  
**NEW ISSUES: GENERAL..... 16-17**  
**NEW ISSUES: WITH SCOTT #s ..... 18-19**

Article  
**EUROPA 2023**  
**PEACE — THE HIGHEST VALUE OF HUMANITY**

Off we go. The various countries responded to this opportunity in predictable fashion. Some simply issued a single stamp portraying the common design. Others expanded on the premise by adding additional interpretations of the theme, which of course provides additional cash for the countries coffers.

Just for fun, when a country provides the theme statement, I've included the "Google Translate" version.

**FRANCE** 1v  
**MONACO** 1v  
**French ANDORRA** 1v

*Issue date*  
 9 May 2023

Peace - the most important human value



**POLAND** 1v

*Issue date*  
 25 April 2023

Peace—the highest value of humanity



**SWEDEN** 1v

*Issue date* 27 April 2023



The PostNord website shows three more designs, with the following:

"In addition to this common motif with denomination for foreign letters, we issue five motifs with postage for domestic letters. Well-known symbols of peace adorn the positively charged stamps that are suitable for all your greetings."



From this, I assume there are two more designs like the ones above. It would be reasonable to conclude that all six stamps comprise Sweden's Europa issue, but who knows at this point what album makers will do.

**SWITZERLAND** 2v

*Issue date* 9 May 2023



**Article**  
**EUROPA 2023**  
**PEACE — THE HIGHEST VALUE OF HUMANITY**

**GERMANY** 1v

*Issue date*  
4 May 2023



**AUSTRIA** 1v

*Issue date* 9 May 2023



**CZECH Republic** 1v

*Issue date* 9 April 2023



**SLOVAKIA** 1v + 1v self-adhesive from a booklet

*Issue date*  
9 May 2023



Peace - the Highest Human Value

**BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA Serb Post** 2v + ms

*Issue date* 28 April 2023



The website ‘post Srpske’ describes the motif of the low value stamp as simply “girl.” The nit-pick award goes to the same website. It gives the issue title as **Peace, the greatest value of humanity** while the ms rephrases to highest value:

**ARTSAKH (Armenian Post of Nagorno Karabakh)**

2v

*Issue date*  
25 May 2023

*Issued singly and se-tenant (horizontally) in sheets of 10 stamps.*





Article

EUROPA 2023

PEACE — THE HIGHEST VALUE OF HUMANITY

**GUERNSEY** 2v from a set of 6v, plus ss

Issue date 24 May 2023

**GIBRALTAR** 2v +ss

Issue date 30 March 2023



The single stamps are the same as those in the ss, shown above. The single stamps are issued in ms of 6 stamps each.

From the press release. This reads as if it's from *Funk & Wagnalls*:

Peace is a concept of societal friendship and harmony in the absence of hostility and violence. In a social sense, peace is commonly used to mean a lack of conflict (such as war) and freedom from fear of violence between individuals or groups. Throughout history, leaders have used peacemaking and diplomacy to establish a type of behavioral restraint that has resulted in the establishment of regional peace or economic growth through various forms of agreements or peace treaties. Such behavioral restraint has often resulted in the reduced conflict, greater economic interactivity, and consequently substantial prosperity.



Guernsey Post describes this as a 6-value set. Only two of the stamps have the Europa logo, and these are the ones depicted on the souvenir sheet..

The annual topical stamp show should be a *GASS*.  
 Co-hosted by the American Philatelic Society, the American Topical Association and the American First Day Cover Society.  
**August 10-13, 2023**  
 Huntington Convention Center of Cleveland - Hall C  
 300 Lakeside Avenue • Cleveland, OH 44113





Article  
EUROPA 2023

PEACE — THE HIGHEST VALUE OF HUMANITY

**NETHERLANDS** 1v

Issue date  
9 May 2023



Issued in mini-sheets of 6 stamps



**LIECHTENSTEIN** 2v

Issue date 9 May 2023



Peace—the highest value of humanity

The second stamp depicts a young girl holding a green earth as a fragile balloon. A peace lollipop is in her right hand, as a white dove flies overhead to crap on everything. No, wait .....



**FAROE ISLANDS** 1v + 1v self-adhesive

Issue date  
9 May 2023



Peace—the highest value of humanity

**DENMARK** 1v

Issue date 4 May 2023



The 12.- DKK stamp (without the Europa logo) was originally issued in 1970 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the end of WWII. On May 4th 1945, when the liberation was announced, Danes and many others celebrated by removing their blackout curtains, and letting the light shine in the streets.

Even though the end of WWII is now many years in the rearview mirror, most Danes still place candles in their windows on the eve of May 4th, and the re-issue of the stamp is a reminder to continue the fight to support freedom and peace throughout the world.

While the original stamp has the text "Sammen for fred" (Together for peace) written at the top, the stamp in the EUROPA souvenir sheet does not. Furthermore, this version is self-adhesive. On the sheet they explain that in Denmark they put candles in the window on May 4 since the liberation in 1945. This is Memorial Day in Denmark.

— from the NORDFRIM newsletter

Article  
**EUROPA 2023**  
**PEACE — THE HIGHEST VALUE OF HUMANITY**

**JERSEY** 2v +ms (shown) containing the 2v

Issue date 9 May 2023



The stamps are also issued singly in ms of 10 stamps each

**NORWAY** 1v

Issue date 9 May 2023



Printed in a booklet of 5 stamps:



**MALTA** 1v in sheet of 11 plus label as shown

Issue date 9 May 2023



Also a booklet pane of 5 stamps plus label:



This issue almost wraps it up for Europa 2023. The few remaining stamps are:

- Estonia
- Slovenia
- Greenland
- Azerbaijan
- Albania
- Armenia
- Georgia
- Isle of Man
- Kazakhstan

No issues from Belarus or Russia. No kidding.



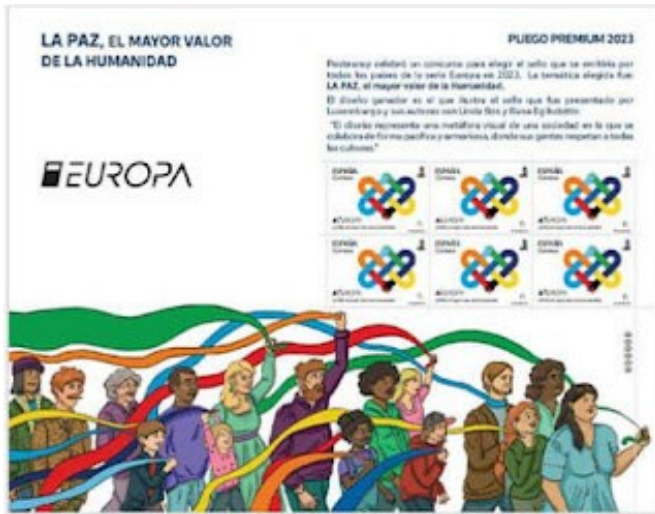
**Article**  
**EUROPA 2023**  
**PEACE — THE HIGHEST VALUE OF HUMANITY**

**SPAIN** 1v

Issue date  
9 May 2023



Also printed in a special presentation sheet of 6v plus educational vignette:



**KOSOVO** 1v + ss

Issue date  
9 May 2023



Kosovo is not a PostEuropa member so there is no logo on either stamp.

**Spanish ANDORRA** 1v

Issue date  
9 May 2023



**MOLDOVA** 2v in ms of 10v each, plus a ms of 4v as shown

Issue date 28 April 2023



**LUXEMBOURG** 1v

Issue date  
16 May 2023



Peace—the highest good of humanity

Article  
**EUROPA 2023**  
**PEACE — THE HIGHEST VALUE OF HUMANITY**

**HUNGARY** 2v issued in one ss of 4v  
 Issue date 9 May 2023



**LATVIA** 2v  
 Issue date 9 May 2023



Peace - the highest value of humanity

**TURKEY** 1v  
 Issue date 9 May 2023



Peace—higher value of humanity

**LITHUANIA** 1v  
 Issue date 9 May 2023



Peace—humanity's greatest value

**Turkish CYPRUS** 2v  
 Issue date 3 May 2023



The ubiquitous peace symbol created as a swarm of baby doves extend the olive branch.

Estonia would normally be listed here to round out the Baltic states. It is running late but still expected by late May.

**IRELAND** 2v  
 Issue date 9 May 2023





Article  
EUROPA 2023

PEACE — THE HIGHEST VALUE OF HUMANITY

PORTUGAL 1v+ss  
AZORES 1v+ss  
MADEIRA 1v+ss



PAZ  
Valor da  
Humanidade

EUROPA



300

Peace the value of humanity

All issued a single stamp identical to that of Portugal's.

For the last few years, Lighthouse has put the three singles and Portugal souvenir sheet on one page, and the remaining two souvenir sheets on another.

From the illustrations, it appears that each of the souvenir sheets contains just one wide stamp.



PAZ  
Valor da  
Humanidade

EUROPA



300

PAZ  
Valor da  
Humanidade

EUROPA



300

Article  
**EUROPA 2023**  
**PEACE — THE HIGHEST VALUE OF HUMANITY**

**GREECE** 2v

Issue date 9 May 2023



The stamps are also issued in one booklet of 4 stamps (2 of each; image courtesy of the Europa Blogspot)

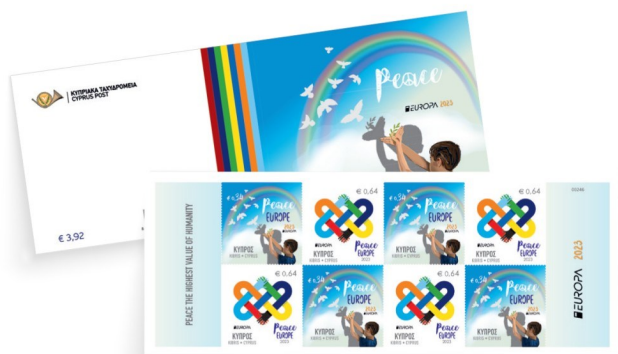


**CYPRUS** 2v in ms of 8v each

Issue date 9 May 2023



The stamps are also issued in one booklet of 8 stamps (4 of each; image courtesy of the Europa Blogspot)



**ITALY** 1v self-adhesive

Issue date 9 May 2023



**SAN MARINO** 1v

Issue date 9 May 2023



Peace—the Greatest Good of Mankind

**VATICAN** 2v

Issue date 16 May 2023



“Alongside the Ukrainians, a noble people and martyrs”

From the Europa Blogspot comes the following, attributed to Euronews:

Pope Francis received thunderous applause on Wednesday [6th of April 2022] as he unfurled and kissed a Ukrainian flag delivered to him from Bucha - the city at the centre of international outrage after images emerged of murdered civilians lying in the streets. [...]

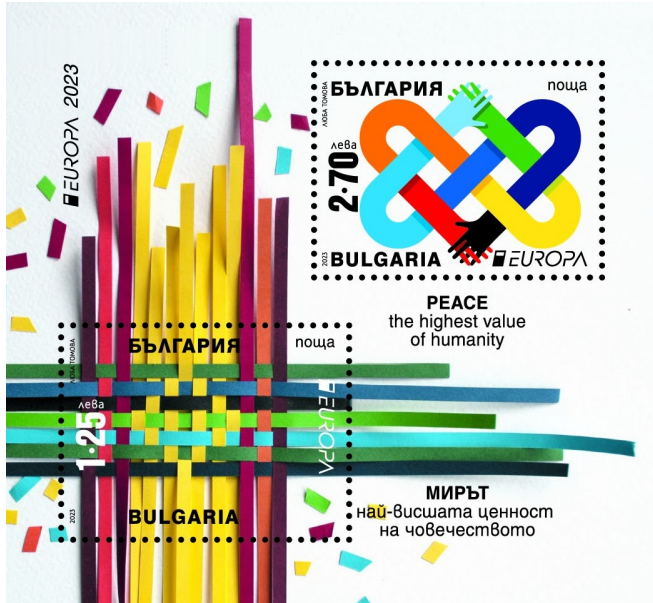
Francis then held up the grimy flag, which he said “comes from the war, straight from that battered city Bucha”, and kissed it before blessing a group of Ukrainian children.



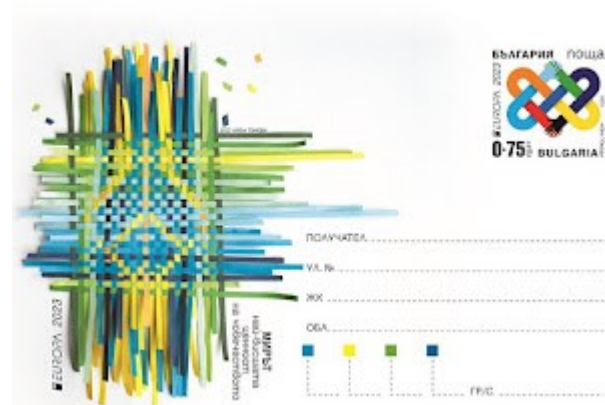
**Article**  
**EUROPA 2023**  
**PEACE — THE HIGHEST VALUE OF HUMANITY**

**BULGARIA** 2v + ss

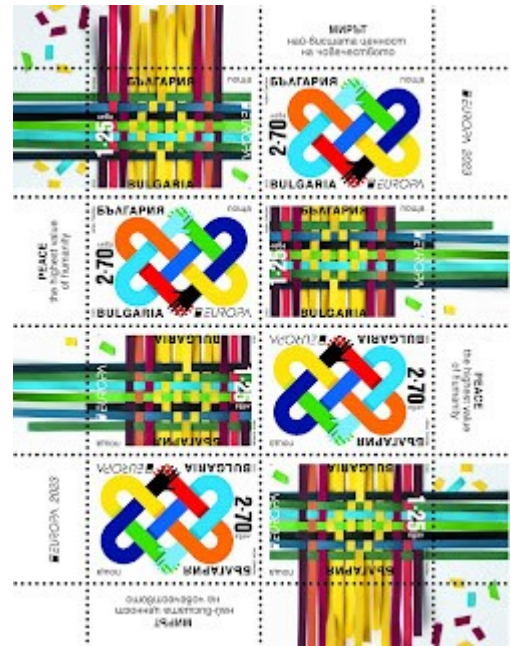
Issue date 26 May 2023



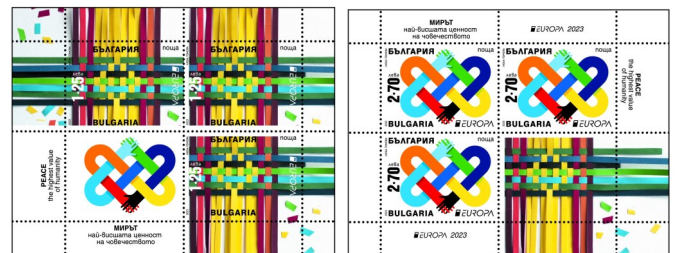
Postal stationery is also issued:



All stamps are issued in *tete-beche* sheets of 4 sets, creating numerous variations for the 1.25 value. Note how the stamps can have a white border on 3 sides, or a white border on just 2 sides::



Both stamps are issued in booklets of 2 panes, resulting in still more varieties:



Prognostication corner: what will the album makers do? My best guess is that they will follow their approach from previous years. Speaking for *Light-house/KaBe*, that would be spaces for

- single stamps and souvenir sheet
- Se-tenant pair from larger sheet
- One booklet pane. (not both. You get to mount the other one yourself)

Article  
**EUROPA 2023**  
**PEACE — THE HIGHEST VALUE OF HUMANITY**

**SERBIA** 2v

Issue date 9 May 2023



**CROATIA** 2v

Issue date 9 May 2023



**BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA (Croat Post)**  
 2v + ss (shown)

Issue date 9 May 2023



The stamps are issued in sheets of 4 sets plus label:



**NORTH MACEDONIA** 2v, issued in ms of 9v each

Issue date 10 May 2023



**BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA** 1v, issued in ms of 10v

Issue date 9 May 2023



Peace - the greatest value of humanity

**MONTENEGRO**  
 1v + ss

Issue date 9 May 2023





Article  
EUROPA 2023

PEACE — THE HIGHEST VALUE OF HUMANITY

ROMANIA

2v + 4ss

Issue date  
9 May 2023

The small souvenir sheets shown below follow the prior years pattern of reversing the order of the stamps, but with a new twist. Now each sheet gets its own color. Will they now get their own spaces? Will the large ss (shown opposite) get a page? The final ss is issued in a special souvenir folder in very limited quantity (261 copies only!).



**New Issues**  
**Peace and Solidarity**

**SLOVAKIA 1v**

Issue date  
 16 September  
 2022

**Solidarity with  
 the Ukrainian  
 People**



From the press release:

When the army of the Russian Federation started war against the Ukraine, a wave of solidarity arose throughout the democratic world with the heroic struggle of the Ukraine. In addition to the most important form of support to the besieged nation, highly effective modern weapons, the provision of humanitarian aid to the victims of this terrorist war ... will continue to be important. The criminal totalitarian Russian regime is also waging a bloody war against women and children. To escape from the conflict millions of them have left the Ukraine, primarily for the European Union.

From the beginning of the conflict, over 700,000 Ukrainian citizens have crossed the Slovak border, mostly women and children looking for a safe haven. Many have travelled onwards beyond Slovakia, but more than 90,000 have asked the Slovak Republic for protection. At the border, local governments and non-governmental organizations, supported by hundreds of dedicated volunteers, did a lot to support them as they crossed into Slovakia. The provision of accommodation, food, medical care and an education for children showed our growing willingness to help and this is a highly positive entry on Slovakia's report card: as positive as the supply of weapons that contributed to the collapse of the aggressor's plans for a quick victory. This spontaneous support for a democratic Ukraine, ... has raised the hopes of the refugees that the time will come when they will be able to return to their free homeland.

—POFIS (Slovakia Post)

**Notable & Quotable**

From the front page of the Wall Street Journal, 28 March 2023:

Western leaders are beginning to have a clearer vision of how they hope the war in Ukraine will end.

What is missing is any plan to make it happen.

**ITALY 1v**

Issue date  
 7 November 2022

**thematic series  
 "the Civic Sense"  
 dedicated to refugees  
 from Ukraine**



**EU solidarity with Ukraine**

The EU stands united in its solidarity with Ukraine and will continue to support Ukraine and its people together with its international partners, including through additional political, financial and humanitarian support.



The EU has reacted swiftly and decisively to Russia's aggression by adopting further restrictive measures in response, that will have massive and severe consequences for Russia.

— from *In Focus, Your Gateway to the European Union*



New Issues  
Peace and Solidarity

CZECH Republic ss

Issue date 7 November 2022

thematic series "Civic Sense" dedicated to refugees from Ukraine



This sheet crossed my desktop in an email from **Nordfrim**, a dealer in Denmark. His description follows:

As the war in Ukraine continues, countries from all around the world continue to show their unyielding support for Ukraine. One way of showing support has been through the use of stamps.

In a clear sign of support, the postal service of Czech Republic issued the limited edition sheet to stand with Ukraine. The stamp is actually from an issue in 2021 in celebration of "The Dancing House" in Prague, but the stamp has been repurposed for this beautiful sheet in a show of solidarity.

The sheet consists of seven identical stamps featuring the beautiful dancing house, which itself was built as a sign of change from Soviet rule, to parliamentary democracy. The stamps frame a large map of Ukraine in the colors of the Ukrainian flag, and in every corner of the sheet, there is a Ukrainian flag waving in the wind.

The sheet was issued in 2022, and fittingly, it was printed in 2022 copies .

New Issues  
European Anniversaries and Events

**CZECH Republic 1v**

Issue date  
15 June 2022

Czech  
Presidency  
of the EU



This stamp recognized the conclusion of the second term at the helm of the EU by the Czech Republic. The Prime Minister noted several successful activities, not least of which was reducing dependence of EU members on Russian fossil fuels.

— from EU2022.cz

**ITALY 1v**

Issue date  
8 December 2022

Thematic series  
"the Civic Sense"  
dedicated to David  
Sassoli



David Maria Sassoli was an Italian politician and journalist who served as the president of the European Parliament from 3 July 2019 until his death on 11 January 2022. Sassoli was first elected as a member of the European Parliament (MEP) in 2009. In September 2021, Sassoli was hospitalized in Strasbourg with a severe case of pneumonia .He died in January 2022 at the age of 65.

— Wikipedia

**ITALY 1v**

Issue date  
7 December 2022

Bilateral Relations  
Between Italy and  
Georgia



**SLOVAKIA 1v**

Issue date  
23 July 2022

European Youth  
Olympic Festival



The XVI Summer European Youth Olympic Festival will be held in Slovakia. The games host was selected at the General Assembly of the European Olympic Committees (EOC) in Minsk (Belarus) in 2016. Although the city of Košice was originally selected to host the largest European multi-sport event for 14 to 18 year olds, the eastern Slovak city was forced to withdraw in March 2019 due to financial problems.

Thus, Banská Bystrica was given the opportunity. Its application to host the EYOF was approved by the EOC on 18th May 2019. But then it became necessary to reschedule the event itself. It was postponed for a year to 2022 so that it dd not clash with the 2020 Olympics Games in Tokyo (Japan), which itself was delayed until 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic

— Stampworld

**FLASH:** To spur more interest in the auctions, Don Smith says that he will give a free set of stamps to every auction bidder. That's *bidder*, not winner. *Go, Don!*



New Issues  
**European Anniversaries and Events**

**ITALY 1v**

Issue date 25 July 2022

European Youth Year;  
 Giffoni52



2022 is designated European Year of Youth, a time for celebration via aggregation of the many cultures and heritages across Europe. In addition, the Italian town of Giffoni has hosted an annual event with just such aggregation in mind.

"Giffoni is considered to be the event that more than any other has presented, in over fifty years, the beauty, energy and ability to aggregate - says founder Claudio Gubitosi - bringing together different cultures and realities. Giffoni has never ceased to dialogue with its youth, keeping alive a tight thread of sharing and passion, even in the midst of lockdown. For over half a century, we have been working with and for the youth, developing our activities into dozens of special projects that take place all over the world and throughout the year.'

"The Giffoni Film Festival has a very important mission, with a great purpose: to put art and culture at the heart of the debate, through the centralization and valorization of the outskirts" - states the President of the Istituto Poligrafico e Zecca dello Stato, Antonio Palma - "The ladder on the stamp symbolizes this: an ascending climax that starts from the bottom and lifts up the values. This splendid metaphor evokes the effect of progression that made the Festival thrive over time".

— from *Giffoni*, 53rd edition

**BULGARIA 1v**

Issue date 31 October 2022

European Cybersecurity  
 Month (ECSM)



From the ECSM website:

The European Cybersecurity Month is changing! After 10 years of successful campaigns, the ECSM has “grown” and from 2023 onwards will be delivering cybersecurity messages all year round. October, our highlight month, remains but as cyber-attacks have no time boundaries, we all need to be alert all the time. So, stay tuned for the themes of the 2023 campaign and, in the meanwhile, join the ECSM social media for monthly tips and tricks! Happy cyber-secure new year. This year’s themes are *Phishing* and *Ransomware*.

— from [cybersecuritymonth.eu](http://cybersecuritymonth.eu)

**CZECH Republic 2v**

Issue date 12 October 2022

European Stamp Exhibition and Polar Salon  
 "LIBEREC 2022"



An additional stamp was issued with the European theme for the show. See page 19.

**New Issues**



with **SCOTT** catalog numbers

From Linns' February, March and April Special Editions

— Don Smith

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>SCOTT #</u>	<u>DATE OF ISSUE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Algeria	1818-9	14-Jul-21	EuroMed 2021 EN 466-5
Bosnia	857	9-May-22	Europa 2022, se-tenant pair a-b; 857c ss w/pair
Bosnia (Serb)	681-3	11-May-22	Europa 2022 683, vertical pair 681-2 683c, booklet pane with 2 each 683
Bulgaria	5015	31-Oct-22	European Month of Cybersecurity EN 474-
France	1083	2-Sep-22	Council of Europe Official Stamp
Gambia	3957	30-May-22	Peace for Ukraine
Greece	2979	26-May-22	Europa 2022, se-tenant pair a-b 2979c, horizontal pair a-b, se-tenant from booklet 2979d-e booklet single stamps 2979f, booklet pane 2 each d-e
Greece	2985	11-Jul-22	EuroMed 2022, se-tenant pair a-b EN 472-11 2985c, ss 2 each a-b 2985d, horizontal pair from booklet 2985e-f booklet stamps 2985g, booklet pane 2 each e-f
Greenland	891	31-May-22	Sepac 2022
Greenland	904-5	31-Aug-22	Europa 2022
Greenland	906-7	31-Aug-22	Europa 2022, self-adhesive 907a, booklet pane 6 each 906-7
Grenada	3073	30-May-22	Peace for Ukraine
Guyana	4702	30-May-22	Peace for Ukraine
Italy	3846	25-Jul-22	European Youth Year
Italy	3850	11-Aug-22	European Aquatics Championships, 2022
Jordan	2446	12-Jul-21	EuroMed 2021, sheet of 4, a-d EN 465-11
Kosovo	459D	7-May-21	Europa 2021
Kosovo	484-6	9-May-22	Europa 2022, 286 a ss
Kyrgyzstan	680	22-Apr-22	Diplomatic relations w/Poland
Kyrgyzstan	681	22-Apr-22	Diplomatic relations w/Denmark
Kyrgyzstan	682	22-Apr-22	Diplomatic relations w/Sweden
Kyrgyzstan	683	22-Apr-22	Diplomatic relations w/Norway
Kyrgyzstan	684	22-Apr-22	Diplomatic relations w/Vatican City
Kyrgyzstan	693	10-Jun-22	Diplomatic relations w/Germany



New Issues



with **SCOTT** catalog numbers

From Linns' February, March, April Special Editions

— Don Smith

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>SCOTT #</u>	<u>DATE OF ISSUE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Liechtenstein	1867	7-Jun-22	Sepac 2022 EN 470-9
Liechtenstein	1876	9-Sep-22	Railways, joint w/Austria 3010, Switzerland EN 472-12
Luxembourg	1605	15-Nov-22	European Union Court of Justice
Malta	1731-2	9-May-22	Europa 2022, 1731a ss sheet 5 of 1731
Malta	1737-8	11-Jul-22	EuroMed 2022 EN 471-7
Malta	1741	13-Sep-22	Sepac 2022 EN 472-8
Marshall Islands	1374	30-May-22	Peace for Ukraine
Monaco	3122b	24-Nov-22	Napoleon, in ss w/other stamp
Montenegro	497	7-Oct-22	Joy of Europe, joint issue w/Serbia EN 472-12
Slovakia	909	23-Jul-22	Summer European Youth Olympic Festival
Slovakia	912	16-Sep-22	Peace & Solidarity with Ukraine
Spain	4607	13-May-22	Europa 2022
Spain	4611	29-May-22	NATO, 40 year member EN 471-8
Spain	4612	30-May-22	Peace & Solidarity with Ukraine EN 470-2
Spain	4626	11-Jul-22	EuroMed 2022 EN 471-6
Spain	4630	22-Jul-22	Euro coin
Ukraine	1340-1	23-May-22	Peace & Solidarity EN 471-11



Addendum to new issue listings:

**CZECH Republic** 1v (x7) issued in sheet with 14 labels

Issue date 2 May 2022

European Stamp Exhibition and Polar Salon "LIBEREC 2022"

Other stamps were issued in booklet form for the Polar Salon, but did not have a European theme

## Article

## Prophets of Europa: Desiderius Erasmus

The following article appeared in *Euro-  
pa News* #397 (May-June 2010). The  
subject matter is continuously relevant.

The Europa legacy Handbook (and  
EN #126-4) cites **Erasmus** as a Euro-  
pean forerunner as follows:

“Desiderius Erasmus (Dutch, c1466-  
1536) traveled widely in a Europe  
that saw few venturers. He suggest-  
ed trilingual schools and advocated  
contact and communication between  
peoples and championed individual  
expression. ‘I am the first European; my ambi-  
tion is to be known as the friend of all the na-  
tions of the world.’”



Scott #B89 Mi 294

At the time the Nether-  
lands had issued two  
stamps showing Eras-  
mus: Scott #B89 (Mi 294)  
issued in 1936 as part of  
a set to raise money for  
cultural projects, and  
Scott #476 (Mi 927) is-  
sued in 1969 to commem-  
orate Erasmus’ 500<sup>th</sup>  
birthday.

In EN #124-3 it was stated that Italy would  
also issue a stamp in 1970. I think the editors  
were thinking of what became Scott #1015,  
which was issued for Erasmo di Narni. Not the  
same person. That same EN also stated that  
the very first Council of Europe Exhibition,  
held in Brussels in 1954 and titled “Humanist  
Europe”, was meant to honor Erasmus.

. I checked my D’Urso and Rogers catalogs  
and could find no special cancel for this event.  
Belgium did, however, issue a set of stamps in  
1967 (Scott # B810-814, MI 1484-1488) for  
Erasmus and the era of the Northern Renais-  
sance. This piqued my interest to do a bit more  
research before I set about mounting my  
stamps.



Scott #476 Mi 927

Thanks to the Internet, that’s not  
hard to do, and I found the following  
in Wikipedia:

**Desiderius Erasmus of Rotter-  
dam ...** was a Dutch Renaissance  
humanist and a Catholic priest and  
theologian. Erasmus was a classical  
scholar who wrote in a "pure" Latin  
style and enjoyed the sobriquet  
"Prince of the Humanists." He has  
been called "the crowning glory of  
the Christian humanists." Using hu-

manist techniques for working on texts, he  
prepared important new Latin and Greek edi-  
tions of the New Testament. He also wrote *In  
Praise of Folly*, *Handbook of a Christian  
Knight*, *On Civility in Children*, and many  
other works. Erasmus remained committed to  
reforming the [Catholic] Church from within  
[and] held to Catholic doctrines such as free  
will.

*In Praise of Folly* is an essay written in 1509  
and first printed in 1511. Erasmus revised  
and extended the work, which he originally  
wrote in the space of a week while sojourning  
with Sir Thomas More at More's estate in  
Bucklersbury. It is considered one of the most  
notable works of the Renaissance and one of  
the catalysts of the Protestant Reformation,  
although Erasmus himself remained Catholic.  
The Belgian issue shows excerpts from *In  
Praise of Folly* and shows portraits of Erasmus  
and Pierre Gilles, both by Quentin Massys.  
Quentin Massys is one of the most important  
portraitists of the age, thanks above all to his  
pictures of Erasmus and Gilles (Petrus Aegidi-  
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Article

Prophets of Europa: Desiderius Erasmus

The title of another of Erasmus' works - "*Moriae Encomium*" - can also be read as meaning "In praise of More". More's *Utopia* includes Pierre (Pieter) Gillis as a character in Book I. More dedicated *Utopia* to Gillis, who was the town clerk of Antwerp and a contemporary humanist. The Belgian set finishes with a drawing of Thomas More's family by Hans Holbein.

In 1988 the Netherland issued one more stamp (Scott #737) honoring Erasmus.



Scott # 737

Actually, it was issued to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of what is now Erasmus University. It was founded in 1913 as the Netherlands School of Commerce. In 1973, the Medical Faculty Rotterdam and the Netherlands School of Economics merged to become Erasmus University

Rotterdam – the first university in the Netherlands named for a person, “a man to whom Rotterdam owes the reputation it has held for centuries in the academic world.”


I created a homemade Lighthouse page for the Netherlands stamps, as shown in the top of the next column. The Belgian set was given its own page; the mounting area is shown in the bottom half of the column.

The last item mentioned was a souvenir sheet issued by France (Scott # 3500) in 2008, celebrating outstanding works of the Europa initiative. This included the Euro, the Common Market, the Galileo space program, and the Erasmus program. See the top of the next page.

Europa-Union

Desiderius Erasmus  
1469 - 1536

„Europa“ Issues Emissions „Europa“




Erasmus was perhaps the most famous and influential humanist of the Northern Renaissance. He was a leading writer on education, author of five influential treatises on humanist educational theory and even a greater number of widely used and often reprinted textbooks taught throughout Europe. He was a staunch defender of the concept of free will.


Erasmus was a Dutchman who traveled widely in a Europe that saw few adventurers. He favored trilingual schools, advocated contact and expanded communications between all peoples, and championed individual freedom of expression. He wrote "I am the first European; my ambition is to be known as the friend of all the nations of the world."

NETHERLANDS


1936



1969




1988




Commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of what is now Erasmus University. It was founded in 1913 as the Netherlands School of Commerce. In 1973, the Medical Faculty Rotterdam and the Netherlands School of Economics merged to become Erasmus University Rotterdam – the first university in the Netherlands named for a person, “a man to whom Rotterdam owes the reputation it has held for centuries in the academic world.”

BELGIUM  
1967


Commemorating Erasmus the Scholar and the era of the Northern Renaissance




ERASMUS, by MASSYS



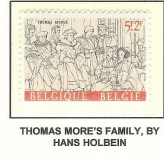
EXCERPTS FROM ERASMUS' "IN PRAISE OF FOLLY"



*In Praise of Folly* is an essay written in 1509 and first printed in 1511. Erasmus revised and extended the work, which he originally wrote in the space of a week while sojourning with Sir Thomas More at More's estate in Bucklersbury. It is considered one of the most notable works of the Renaissance and one of the catalysts of the Protestant Reformation, although Erasmus himself remained Catholic.



PIERRE GILLES, by MASSYS



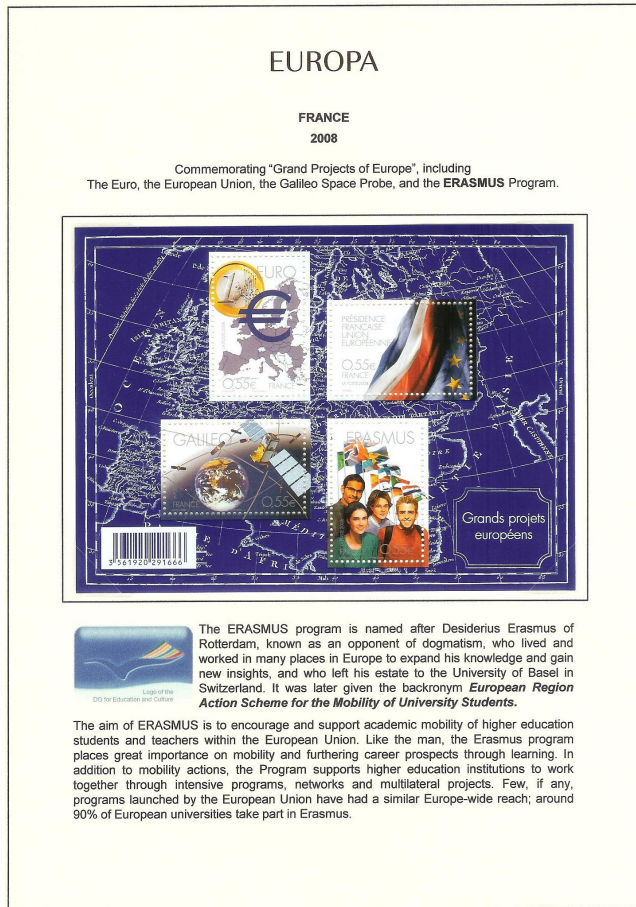
THOMAS MORE'S FAMILY, BY HANS HOLBEIN

Quentin Massys is one of the most important portraitists of the age, thanks above all to his pictures of Erasmus and *Pierre Gilles* (Petrus Aegidius) reproduced on the stamps.

Erasmus was a good friend of *Sir Thomas More*, another faithful Roman Catholic and detractor of Martin Luther, with whom he shared a taste for dry humor and other intellectual pursuits. The title of another of Erasmus' works - "*Moriae Encomium*" - can also be read as meaning "in praise of More". More's *Utopia* includes Pierre (Pieter) Gillis as a character in Book I. More dedicated *Utopia* to Gillis, who was the town clerk of Antwerp and a contemporary humanist.

Article

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That article goes on to say

“Today the European Commission website says that ‘ERASMUS is the EU's flagship education and training program, enabling 200,000 students to study and work abroad each year. In addition, it funds co-operation between higher education institutions across Europe. The program not only supports students, but also professors and business staff who want to teach abroad, as well as helping university staff to receive training.’

In 2008 France issued a souvenir sheet publicizing four “Grand Projects of Europe” - the EU itself, the Euro (uh oh), the Galileo project, and the ERASMUS program. ERASMUS is a backronym meaning **European Region Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students**.

2012 marks ERASMUS’ 25th anniversary, and PORTUGAL has noted the event with a stamp and souvenir sheet. They embody a whimsical depiction of typical students in various states of mobility—walking, biking, scootering— crisscrossing Europe with their learning materials.

A follow-on article appeared in the July-Aug 2012 edition of Europa News. (EN# 410-9) to highlight the 25th anniversary of the ERASMUS program. One sure sign that a program will be with us for awhile is that it be given its own logo. And so, we have the following:



Logo of the Erasmus program.

Students who join the Erasmus Program of study do an internship for a period of at least 3 months to an academic year in another European country. The ERASMUS Program guarantees that the period spent abroad is recognized by their university when they come back



**Article**  
**Prophets of Europa: Desiderius Erasmus**

“The ERASMUS Program, together with a number of other independent Programs, was incorporated into the **Socrates** program established by the European Commission in 1994. The Socrates program was in turn replaced by the **Lifelong Learning Program** 2007–2013 on 1 January 2007.

“The EU proudly states that ‘Few, if any, programs launched by the European Union have had a similar Europe-wide reach as the ERASMUS Program.’ Over 20 million students have participated as of 2011.”

Speaking of acronyms (weren’t we?), the 25th anniversary got an acronym of its own;



As of now, the table below summarizes the stamps that comprise the various realizations of Erasmus. I think. Please advise of any errors, omissions or flubs that you know of.

Scott #s								
bp	BEGIN	ep	END	COUNTRY	YR	Description	ESU	Remarks
B	89			Netherlands	1936	Erasmus	B-5	
B	810	B 814		Belgium	1967	Erasmus	397-17	
	478			Netherlands	1969	Erasmus	124-3	
C	90			Congo PR	1970	Erasmus		painting
	917	C 262		Togo	1975	Erasmus		Letter Writing Week
	737			Netherlands	1988	Erasmus		part of set 737-8
	937			Netherlands	1996	Erasmus		Erasmus bridge
	3500			France	2008	Erasmus - Eur Projects	387-5	Erasmus Project - see Wikipedia
	3398		3399	Portugal	2012	ERASMUS program	410-9	ss+1v
	1498			Netherlands	2015	Erasmus	430-16	strip of 2v+label from a ss of 10v+5 labels w/other writers
	4223			Spain	2017	ERASMUS program	442-11	1v in a PremiumSheet of 12

New Issues  
**SEPAC 2023**  
**Traditional Markets**

SEPAC should get going in early summer. So far, with this issue from **JERSEY**, we have two countries. The next Europa News should get most, if not all, of the rest. As usual, Jersey issued a long set, of which only one stamp actually bears the SEPAC logo. Issue date 21 March 2023.



The set includes a souvenir sheet. The complete set of single stamps is issued as a miniature sheet of 10 stamps:



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