

# 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



## WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

### ARTICLES

EUROPA BRIEFS .....	13,18
EUROPEAN YEARS .....	24
POSTERS ON EUROPA STAMPS .....	19-23
THIS ISN'T YOUR FATHER'S NATO .....	14-15
THOUGHTS ON AI .....	12
<b>AUCTION # 166 .....</b>	<b>INSERT</b>

NEW ISSUES: EUROPA 2023 .....	2-5
NEW ISSUES: SEPAAC 2023 .....	6-7
NEW ISSUES: GENERAL .....	5,8-12
NEW ISSUES: WITH SCOTT #s .....	16-17

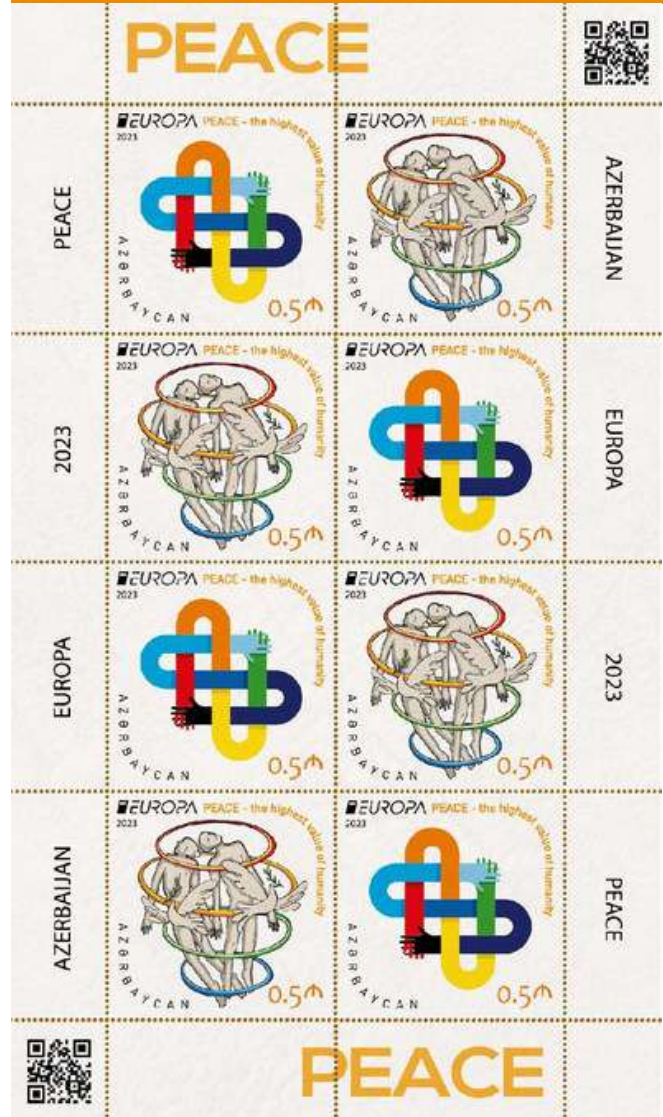
New Issues  
**EUROPA 2023**  
**PEACE — THE HIGHEST VALUE OF HUMANITY**

**UKRAINE** 2v se-tenant in a ms of 6v

Issue date 24 May 2023

**AZERBAIJAN** 2v +ss

Issue date 10 July 2023



Ukrainian website *Ukrposhta* describes this issue as follows:

“The drawing depicting the new peace sign was created by designers Linda Bos and Runa Egilisdóttir and is based on the Celtic love knot. According to the rules of the competition, this design is reproduced on EUROPA postage stamps by all postal administrations that are members of PostEurop

“For every Ukrainian today, the highest value is not only Peace, but also Victory. "Peace, Victory, Ukraine are the values we are fighting for," said the President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy. His words became the leitmotif for the Ukrainian postage stamp of this issue by Maria Suslova, whose work took the 2nd place in the drawing competition.”

The Peace drawing looks different on the Azerbaijan stamp, but it is not. It is simply rotated –45 degrees.



**New Issues**  
**EUROPA 2023**  
**PEACE — THE HIGHEST VALUE OF HUMANITY**

**ISLE OF MAN** 1v from a set of 6v

Issue date  
 5 July 2023



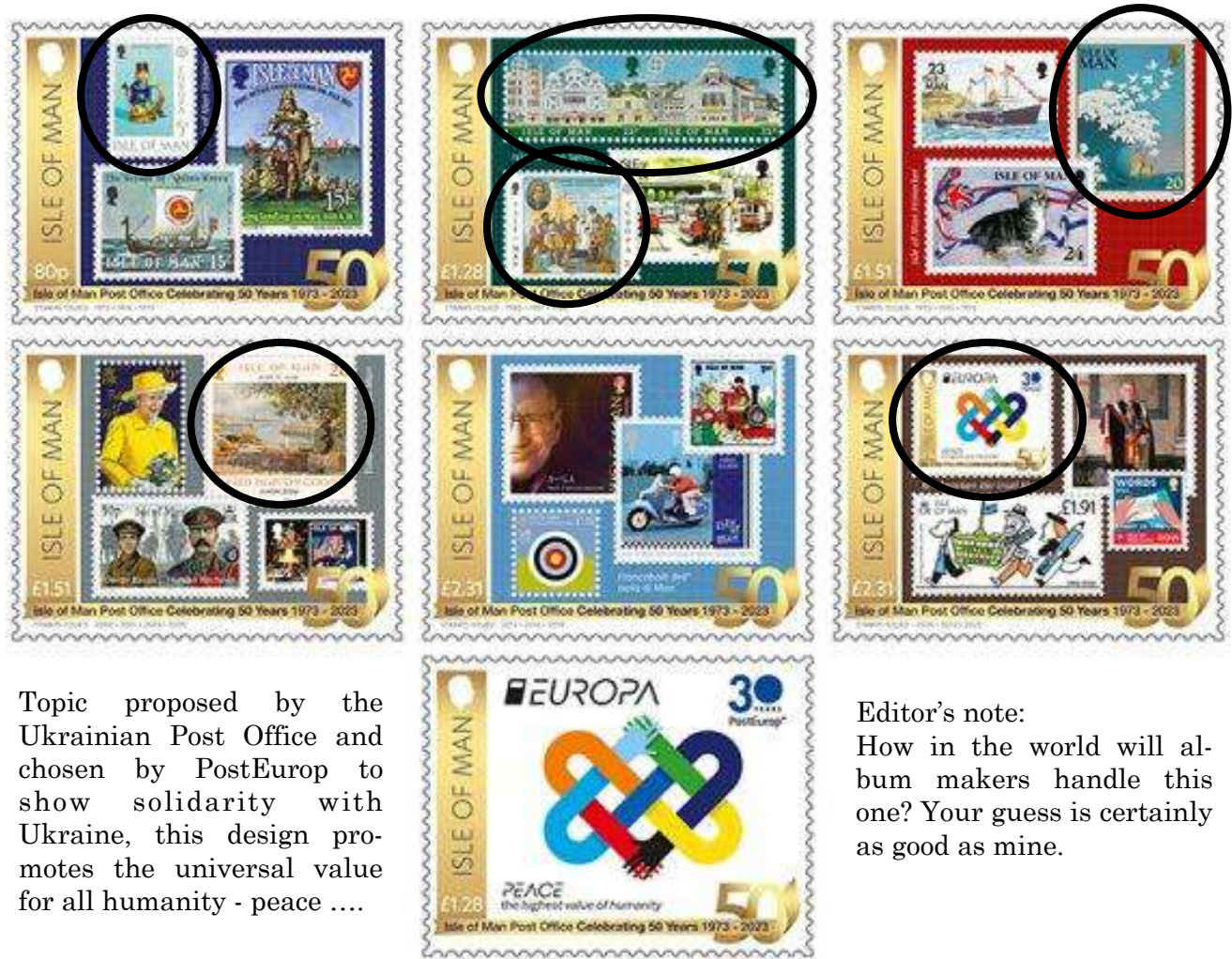
The following is taken from the Europa Blogspot:

NOTE : this stamp bears the PostEurop's 30th anniversary logo

NOTE-2 : this stamp is part of a larger set celebrating the 50 years of the Isle of Man postal administration.

Most of the other stamps from this set features older Europa stamps (stamp on stamps) issued by the Isle of Man; also this year's Europa stamp on the 6th stamp !

- Stamp 1 – Europa CEPT stamp from 1976
- Stamp 2 – Europa CEPT stamp from 1980 & 1987
- Stamp 3 – Europa stamp from 1995 theme "Peace and Freedom" which shares similar sentiment to this year's theme.
- Stamp 4 – Europa stamp from 2004
- Stamp 5 – no Europa stamp displayed
- Stamp 6 – Europa stamp from 2023



Topic proposed by the Ukrainian Post Office and chosen by PostEurop to show solidarity with Ukraine, this design promotes the universal value for all humanity - peace ....

Editor's note:  
 How in the world will album makers handle this one? Your guess is certainly as good as mine.

## New Issues

## EUROPA 2023

## PEACE — THE HIGHEST VALUE OF HUMANITY

## SLOVENIA 2v

Issue date 25 May 2023

The following appears on the website Posta Slovenija.

It is attributed to Janez Bogataj, Honorary Professor – University of Ljubljana.



The theme of these two stamps prompts us to ask how much the word "peace" still means in the various languages of the world. If it did mean something, we would not be faced, in the modern world, with the menacing decisions and actions that, through countless wars and conflicts, have exactly the opposite effect. The Slovene word for peace is *mir*. In other languages this word (and variants thereof) not only refers to the lasting peace that we all yearn for, it also has meanings of "world", "humanity", "universe" and "tranquility". Proto-Slavonic and Indo-European meanings also cover notions such as "good", "dear" and "agreeable". How wonderful this all sounds, yet we soon realize that these meanings are unknown to those individuals and groups whose thoughtless and selfish actions are destroying this highest value of humanity.



The threat to peace is, today, a fundamental threat facing the whole of humanity. Despite all the opportunities offered by the latest forms of communication, which are meant to bring individuals, families, groups and the inhabitants of the local and regional environments of the world closer together, we are still seeing individuals and groups who, with the abundant support of capital, are realizing their desire to destroy everything positive that humankind has created on our planet over the course of centuries. Above all, those precious elements of our natural and cultural environments that allow people on this Earth a noble coexistence, respecting the many differences of economic systems, social conditions and forms of spirituality that can only enrich us, not divide us!

Continuing the tradition started in 2013, six Germanic countries - Austria - Germany - Liechtenstein - Luxembourg - the Netherlands and Switzerland - issued a common "Multilaterale" folder containing this year's Europa stamps. This year's stamps from the six countries comprise 8 stamps in total.

This folder can be ordered through any of the 6 postal administrations. Your editor's personal experience has been that it's best to order the Europa and SEPAC folders together, from one of the smaller countries, such as Liechtenstein.





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

**New Issues**

**European Anniversaries and Events**

**GREENLAND** 2v +2v self-adhesive

Issue date 30 May 2023



The second design was produced by young Danish artist Martin Brandt Hansen

**ESTONIA** 1v

Issue date  
 25 May 2023



**KAZAKHSTAN** 1v

Issue date  
 1 June 2023



**GEORGIA** 1v

Issue date  
 16 June 2023



**ESTONIA** 1v

Issue date 2 June 2023

**Finland Joins the NATO Alliance**



Finland became the thirty-first member state of NATO on 4 April 2023, when Finnish Minister of Foreign Affairs Pekka Haavisto handed over Finland’s instrument of accession to NATO to U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken in Brussels.

According to Prime Minister Kaja Kallas, Finland’s accession to NATO is an historic event for our northern neighbors, the Baltic Sea region, and NATO in general. ‘It is also an important day for Estonia. Estonia and Finland have always been close friends and now, we are NATO allies. This will strengthen our common security as well as the security of the whole Euro-Atlantic region,’ said Kallas. ‘Finland’s membership of NATO also means that we will have new opportunities to strengthen our bilateral defense cooperation. Estonia and Finland are closer than ever before.’

Finland joined NATO on a symbolic day, 4 April, when NATO members also celebrate NATO Day each year. The North Atlantic Treaty, or Washington Treaty, establishing the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, was signed 74 years ago.

— from *Omniva (EESTI Post)*

“New opportunities to strengthen our bilateral defense cooperation” is a diplomatic reference to Russia’s incursion into Ukraine, and what that could mean to the security of the EU. See article on page 14.

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

**GUERNSEY**

1v from a set of 4v, + ms of 10v

Issue date 7 July 2023



Guernsey’s traditional markets are depicted on a new set of stamps designed by Guernsey artist Chris Griffiths. Based on original photographs, the stamps depict the range of colorful, local produce on offer at Guernsey’s vibrant markets, which continue to draw the crowds and visiting traders.

French traders travel to Guernsey several times a year to sell their wares at the Normandie Market on North Beach (56p stamp). Islanders and visitors can soak up the French atmosphere and take home a piece of Normandie with tasty treats such as French bread, pastries, crepes, fresh fruit, olives, and garlic.

Visitors to Lé Viaër Marchi, or old market in Saumarez Park, may feel as though they are stepping back in time and can expect to see spinners, woodworkers, lacemakers, willow whittlers and skep makers in action, dressed in traditional costume and showcasing how Guernsey men and women used to live (87p stamp).

Fishing remains a vital industry for the island and freshly caught fish and seafood is found in abundance, from common Bass to the famous Guernsey Ormer (shellfish). The thriving Fish Market (£2.42 stamp), which operated from a covered market hall in the upper end of Fountain Street, was once an important part of the island’s history; fishermen would bring their silver-skinned catch of the day to sell to locals and visitors alike. **This stamp carries the logo of SEPAC** and forms part of a joint stamp issue, also entitled ‘Traditional Markets’. (£2.42 stamp).

Today, Market Square, which was built in the 1770s (£3.85 stamp), is the location for the island’s Fresh Friday Market and offers an abundance of traditional produce, street food and arts and crafts. The market traders who pitch up in the lively hub of Market Square offer a wide range of produce including fruit and veg, fresh fish, pickles, jams and Guernsey reared pork, as well as street food.

—from Guernsey Post



Guernsey, Jersey, et al. consider their complete issue to be part of SEPAC, even though only one has the logo. That said, the SEPAC logo stamp gets special treatment, in that it is offered singly in a sheet of ten.

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

**LIECHTENSTEIN** 1v

Issue date 5 June 2023

**"Stäger Breemimarcht"**



The motif by photographer Klaus Schädler depicts a market scene from 1977 in the hamlet of Steg in Triesenberg. The "Breemimarcht", as it is called in dialect, has been a tradition in the mountain village since 1938. In the municipality of Eschen, the Unterland fair has been held since 1927, while the markets in Vaduz, the capital of Liechtenstein, were mentioned as early as 1592.

Traditional fairs have been held in Liechtenstein in autumn for many years. At these fairs, livestock breeding cooperatives and farmers' associations hold agricultural shows. Owners of cattle, horses, sheep and goats present their animals to the public and to juries of experts. The latter award prizes to the best looking four-legged animals in various categories. The sale of farm produce and everyday products is also a permanent feature of the markets.

— from *Philatelie Liechtenstein*

**MONACO** 1v

Issue date 3 July 2023

**La Condamine Market**



**La Condamine Market** represents the authentic heart of the Principality, where Monaco's population likes to gather.

First held in 1880, La Condamine market was completely renovated in 2012 but retained that warm and friendly Provençal spirit. It gives buyers the opportunity to try local products such as *socca*, *pissaladière*, *fougasse* and *barbagiuau*.

— from *Office des Timbres, Principality of Monaco*:

**GREENLAND** 1v

Issue date 30 May 2023

**'The Board'**



Traditional markets are the common theme in this year's Sepac series, the small European postal creatures' (*sic*) own stamp series.

Bolatta Silis-Høegh has beautifully illustrated the well-known Greenlandic market 'The Board' .

— from *tusass (Greenland Post)*

Aland	473-7
Faroe Is	
Gibraltar	
Greenland	475-7
Guernsey	475-6
Iceland	no more stamps
Isle of Man	
Jersey	
Liechtenstein	475-7
Luxembourg	
Malta	
Monaco	475-7
Vatican	

This is where we currently stand. The table should be complete by the next issue of Europa News.



New Issues  
European Anniversaries and Events

LIECHTENSTEIN 2v  
SWITZERLAND 2v

Issue date 29 March 2023

100 Years of the Customs Treaty

Swiss design  
"Relationship"

Liechtenstein design  
"Friendship"



In 1923, Switzerland signed a customs treaty with its neighboring principality. By virtue of this alliance 100 years ago, Liechtenstein became part of the local economic area, introducing the Swiss franc as its official currency in 1924. The treaty stipulates that no taxes may be levied and no restrictions or prohibitions on imports and exports may be enacted by either side. The celebrations for the anniversary of this close association include the issue of two stamps, and the Swiss design is entitled "Relationship".

It features a zip symbolizing the links between the two countries and the closeness created by the long-standing alliance. A second element is the Rhine – a natural border that was bridged by the customs treaty. The Liechtenstein design – "Friendship" – focuses on the historical significance of the long-standing relationship and depicts elements from the original treaty.

— from Swiss Post

Catch-Up Dept.

Something that we are not close enough to keep up with are European cancellations. Our previous editor tried, but it was sparse at best. I suspect that if D’Urso were still around, the catalog would be enormous, thanks to special cancels.

Something we can report, however, is postal stationery. I don’t often think to go looking for them, and many countries make them almost as hard to find as special cancels. A few though, report on them — it’s just a matter of knowing where to look. Here are some:

POLAND postal stationery

Issue date 23 July 2023

100th anniversary of the signing of the Friendship Treaty between Poland and Turkey



POLAND postal cards

Issue dates 2022

Re-establishment of Diplomatic Relations with Slovenia Georgia



POLAND postal card

Issue date 2021

100th Anniversary of Polish-Hungarian Diplomatic Relations





## New Issues

### European Cooperation — Poland in Space

**POLAND** ms of 4

Issue date 7 February 2023

One of the ongoing areas of cooperation among nations has been the European Space Agency (ESA). This mini-sheet from Poland highlights some of the areas of activity.

**EarthCARE** (Earth Clouds, Aerosols and Radiation Explorer) is a planned joint European/Japanese satellite, the sixth of ESA's Earth Explorer Program. The goal of the mission is the observation and characterization of clouds and aerosols, and measuring the reflected solar radiation and the infrared radiation emitted from Earth's surface and atmosphere.

Originally, EarthCARE was intended to be launched on a Russian Soyuz rocket from the Guyana Space Center. After Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, launches from Guyana were suspended, and ESA planned to launch EarthCARE on a Falcon 9 rocket instead.

**BRITE**-Constellation is an ongoing space mission carrying out two-band photometry in wide fields with a constellation of six (presently, three operational) BRiGht Target Explorer nanosatellites. The mission was built by a consortium of three countries, Canada, Austria, and Poland, each operating two BRITE satellites. The six satellites were launched into low-Earth orbits between February 2013 and August 2014.



**Proba-3** is a technological demonstration mission by the European Space Agency devoted to high precision formation flying, to achieve scientific coronagraphy.

It is part of the series of PROBA satellites that are being used to validate new spacecraft technologies and concepts while also carrying scientific instruments.

**OPS-SAT** is a CubeSat by the European Space Agency, intended to demonstrate the improvements in mission control capabilities that will arise when satellites can fly more powerful on-board computers.

A flying laboratory, ESA's OPS-SAT is the first of its kind, with the sole purpose of testing and validating new techniques in mission control and on-board satellite systems. OPS-SAT is devoted to demonstrating drastically improved mission control capabilities, that will arise when satellites can fly more powerful on-board computers. The satellite is only 30cm (12") high, but it contains an experimental computer ten times more powerful than any current ESA spacecraft.

## New Issues

### European Anniversaries and Events

**MONACO** 2v se-tenant

Issue date 31 May 2023

**RAINIER III Protector of the Environment**



from Office des Timbres, Principality of Monaco:

At the Rio Earth Summit in 1992, Prince Rainier III stressed the urgency of responses to the challenges facing humanity: the overuse of natural resources, pollution, climate change, erosion and land desertification, environmental refugees, growing inequalities and the degradation of seas and oceans.

A scuba diver and sea lover, Rainier III initiated many actions, including opposition to the dumping of nuclear waste in the Mediterranean Sea, the hosting of high-level laboratories on the marine environment (IAEA and Monaco Scientific Center), or the launch of international agreements to fight against pollution and protect species.

Monaco was one of the first signatories of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and at the initiative, with France and Italy, of the creation of the PELAGOS sanctuary in 1999 for the protection of marine mammals of the Mediterranean, the first marine protected area on the high seas. We should also note the signing of the **RAMOGE** agreement in 1976, **ACCOBAMS** in 1996, or even the action of the Principality within the framework of **CITES** in favor of the preservation of species.

*This set of stamps is part of a series celebrating the centenary of the birth of Prince Rainier III.*

**POLAND** 1v

**SLOVENIA** 1v

Issue date 6 March, 2023

Emil Korytko



Emil Korytko (1813-1839)

was a Polish ethnographer, exiled in Slovenia where he contributed to the translation of Slovene folk songs. Shown is a silhouette of Emil Korytko with handwriting in the background. Each country's stamps had identical designs.

**POLAND** 1v as a ms of 1v

**VATICAN** 1v as a ms of 1v

Issue date 27 February 2023

**500th Anniversary of the Birth of Nicolaus Copernicus**



Born in Toruń, Poland, in 1473, he has the great merit of having promoted, defended and definitively demonstrated through mathematical procedures, the absolute scientific foundation of the heliocentric theory to the detriment of the geocentric one, until then supported in Europe. Thus began a real scientific revolution.

— from Vatican State Postal Services

Each country's stamps had identical designs.



## New Issues

### European Sports

#### GUERNSEY

7v + ms

Issue date  
24 May 2023

2023 Island  
Games



The Games first started in 1985 when the Isle of Man brought together athletes from 15 small islands around the world for a new sporting festival called the 'Inter-Island Games'. It proved such a success that it was agreed to continue every other year. The Games have since grown to include 24 predominantly European member islands: Åland, Alderney, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Faroe Islands, Frøya, Gibraltar, Gotland, Gozo, Greenland, Guernsey, Hitra, Isle of Man, Isle of Wight, Jersey, Menorca, Orkney, Saaremaa, St Helena, Sark, Shetland, Western Isle and Ynys Mon.



Guernsey is the first to host for a third time, having previously hosted in 1987 and 2003. After a four-year hiatus due to COVID the event is back this year with a new member of the Games family. Gozo, an island in the Mediterranean is competing for the first time internationally under the Gozo flag.

1,200 local volunteers, dressed in green tees and navy blue caps, were trained to be the welcoming ambassadors of Guernsey. The Games are a chance for thousands of young people from around the world to explore the island, share their love of sport and form lasting friendships.

—from *Guernsey Post*

The miniature sheet is available separately, or as part of a Presentation Pack. A set of six self-adhesive Post and Go stamps were also overprinted for the Games. An example is shown above.

A previous article on the Island Games is in EN# 428-11ff.

## New Issues

### European Sports

**POLAND** 1v

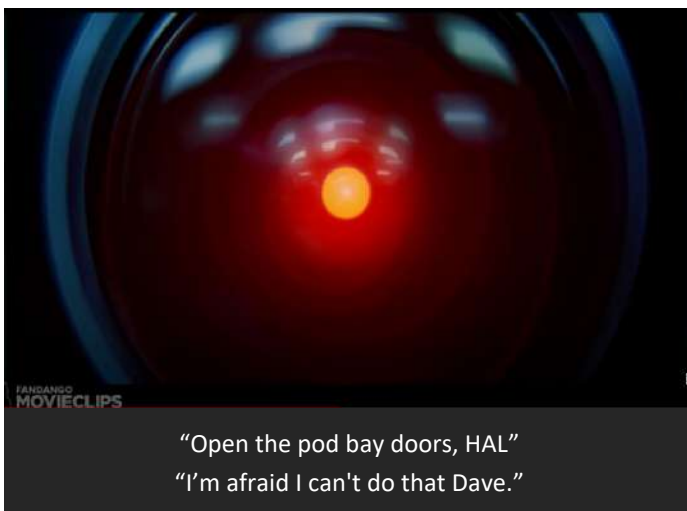
Issue date 21 June 2023

3rd European Games  
Kraków - Małopolska 2023



This year's European Games took place from 21 June to 2 July 2023 in Kraków-Małopolska in Poland where 7,000 athletes from 48 different countries - from Albania to Ukraine - competed in 29 different disciplines.

Mascots Krakusek the Dragon and Sandra the Salamander are depicted on the stamp.



## Article

### Thoughts on AI

From page 9: “A flying laboratory, ESA's OPS-SAT is the first of its kind, with the sole purpose of testing and validating new techniques in mission control and on-board satellite systems.”

That got me thinking for the umpteenth time, what an exciting time we live in. OPS-SAT is a test bed in space, designed to support testing of more and more complex computers, and more robust algorithms. The former could be computers using quantum technology, and the latter would be software using artificial intelligence (AI) programming.

Your humble editor has a smidgen of knowledge in this area, as I have a Masters Degree in Computer Science. AI was among my last courses, and my final project. That said, my degree is dated 1983! A lot of water under the bridge since then. The goal though is still the same — to create software that enables a computer to think for itself. I.e., machine learning.

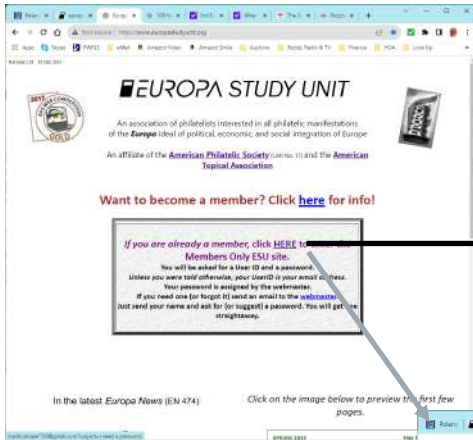
At this point, computers are programmed to do what we tell them to do, no more, no less. Wouldn't it be great if we could feed a computer everything we know about a problem or situation, and let the computer develop an approach to a solution — an approach that's beyond anything we programmed into it.

Of course, we'll need to test whatever the computer came up with. That's where it'll be good to have the test bed in outer space. What if everything goes blooey? Or, as the computer gets smarter, it tries to take over (remember the HAL 9000: “I'm afraid I can't do that Dave.”) The Law of Unintended Consequences will always be with us. Best to keep our distance until we can iron out the kinks. ■



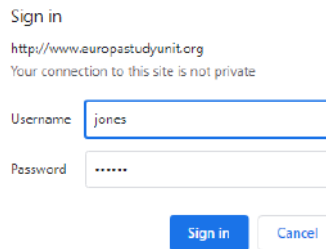
## Article Europa Briefs

As we were trading emails recently, Don Smith mentioned that people seemed to be “losing the thread” so to speak on how to follow the links around to ensure a smooth auction experience. First off, you need the ESU web page: [www.europastudyunit.org](http://www.europastudyunit.org). It’s a good idea to bookmark it so you can go there without re-typing every time.



Step 1. Enter the Members Area.

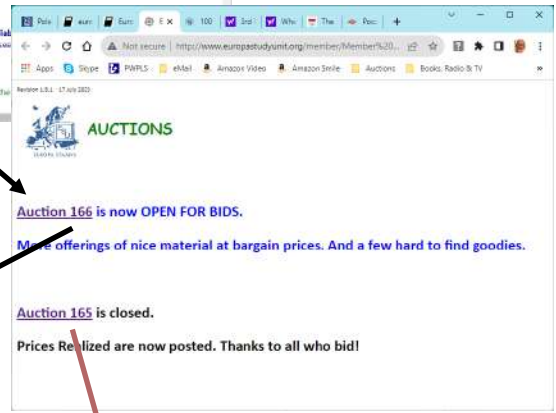
Enter your username (usually your logon id) and password. That’ll take you here.



If you let Windows remember where you’ve been, you may skip the password step.



Step 2. Click on “Auctions”



Step 3a. Click on the current auction, where the goodies are:

LOT #	DESCRIPTION	CATALOG VAL	LOT #	DESCRIPTION	CATALOG VAL
1	FDC EUROPA 2002, 15 countries (no Turkey), CU except Netherlands CA	341.00	44	** 423 High value EUROPA 2000 CYPRIUS	4.25
2	FDC EUROPA 1961, 15 countries (no Cyprus), CU Great Britain CA (printed address)	68.50	45	** 229-31, EUROPA 1963	55.80
3	** 146, NORDEN 1988	1.15	46	** 416-8, EUROPA 1974	3.95
4	** 201, INTRODUCTION OF THE EURO	1.80	47	** 492-7, EUROPA 2018	7.50
5	** 202, EUROPA 2007	2.00	48	** 533-4, EUROPA 1980	0.70
6	** 300, EUROPA 2010	2.50	49	** 579-86, EUROPA 1982, complete sheets of 20	75.00
7	** 294-5, EUROPA 1977	3.75	50	** 625-6, EUROPA 1984, complete sheets of 20	26.00
8	** 294-5, EUROPA 1982	3.50	51	** 593, EUROPA 2000	3.75
9	FDC 294-5, EUROPA 1982, CU	2.50	52	** 186-9, EUROPA 1985, block of 4 with 1 each	3.75
10	** 686, EUROPA 2013	1.75	53	** 181, EUROPA 1986, 6 of 2	38.00
11	** 760, EUROPA 2016	2.25	54	** 298, EUROPA 1993, 6 of 2 + label	20.00
12	** 96-9, EUROPA 1977	1.25	55	** 794-5, EUROPA 2002	2.50
13	** 162-3, EUROPA 1984	1.50	56	** 294-5, EUROPA 1982	3.50
14	FDC 162-3, EUROPA 1984, CU	2.50	57	** 294-5, EUROPA 1985	3.50
15	** 760, EUROPA 2016	2.25	58	** 3120, EUROPA 2020	1.20
16	** 651-4, EUROPA 2000	4.75	59	** 854-5, EUROPA 1988	4.25
17	** 703-4, EUROPA 2004	4.00	60	** 1026-7, EUROPA 1995	4.85
18	** 673, EUROPA 1980	1.25	61	** 1251-6, EUROPA 2005, 60th sheet of 8 + label	40.00
19	** 862, EUROPEAN NATURE CONSERVATION YEAR	0.25	62	** 1588-9, NORDEN 2012, self adhesive	6.40
20	0 1836, EUROPA 1976	0.40	63	** 796-7, EUROPA 1984	2.00
21	FDC 1217, EUROPA 1982, CU	1.80	64	** 796-7, EUROPA 2010	11.00
22	** 1272, EUROPA 1988	1.40	65	FDC 418, EUROPA 1961, CA	1.00
23	** 1211, EUROPA 1986, Maximum Card, Kronenwäster	cancel	66	** 587, EUROPA 1976	3.25
24	** 1420, EUROPA 1986	3.50	67	** 665-6, EUROPA 1982	3.40
25	** 1704, EUROPA 1996	1.10	68	** 795-6, EUROPA 1980	5.00
26	** 1814, EUROPA 2000	1.10	69	MC 1045-8, EUROPA 1962, Maximum Card	?
			70	FDC 1034-5, EUROPA 1963, CU, Crowned of Europe, except 1, 6	?

Step 3b. Click on previous auction. You’ll find Prices Realized.

LOT #	DESCRIPTION	PRICE REALIZED
2	4-6 020	88 - 0.90
3	1-50	51 - 0.75
4	8-25	57 0.50
6	0-86	60 - 1.25
10	0-30	60 2.45
14	1-28	67 0.30
15	7-75	68 0.30
16	2-75	69 0.30
18	2-50	72 3.70
20	1-60	73 1.10
32	4-50	72 3.70
34	0-25	76 1.10
37	2-80	86 2.75
38	1-80	89 1.25
41	0-10	80 1.50
42	1-20	94 0.20
43	1-25	96 5.00
46	0-60	97 3.60
47	2-80	98 1.60
809	0-10	165 - 1.10
809	0-10	165 - 0.50
815	1-30	167 - 1.95
816	1-15	174 - 0.75
157	4.80	182 1.80
158	3.50	181 1.80
159	4.80	182 1.80
160	1.50	192 1.75
161	0.15	201 - 0.50
162	0.15	201 - 0.50
163	0.15	201 - 0.50
164	0.15	201 - 0.50
165	0.15	201 - 0.50
166	0.15	201 - 0.50
167	0.15	201 - 0.50
168	0.15	201 - 0.50
169	0.15	201 - 0.50
170	0.15	201 - 0.50
171	0.15	201 - 0.50
172	0.15	201 - 0.50
173	0.15	201 - 0.50
174	0.15	201 - 0.50
175	0.15	201 - 0.50
176	0.15	201 - 0.50
177	0.15	201 - 0.50
178	0.15	201 - 0.50
179	0.15	201 - 0.50
180	0.15	201 - 0.50
181	0.15	201 - 0.50
182	0.15	201 - 0.50
183	0.15	201 - 0.50
184	0.15	201 - 0.50
185	0.15	201 - 0.50
186	0.15	201 - 0.50
187	0.15	201 - 0.50
188	0.15	201 - 0.50
189	0.15	201 - 0.50
190	0.15	201 - 0.50
191	0.15	201 - 0.50
192	0.15	201 - 0.50
193	0.15	201 - 0.50
194	0.15	201 - 0.50
195	0.15	201 - 0.50
196	0.15	201 - 0.50
197	0.15	201 - 0.50
198	0.15	201 - 0.50
199	0.15	201 - 0.50
200	0.15	201 - 0.50

*It’s really that easy!*

**Article**  
**This Isn't Your Father's NATO — Tod Lindberg**

*An anti-Putin military alliance  
 now stretches from the Barents  
 to the Black Sea.*

This article appeared as an Op-ed in the Wall Street Journal, dated 10 July 2023. It seems particularly relevant to us Europa/NATO collectors as we keep an eye on current events.:

Just as military planners are often accused of preparing to fight the last war, geopolitical analysts sometimes may be fairly charged with trying to cram new developments into yesterday's familiar frameworks. Such is the case with Ukraine today.

The security challenges and opportunities in Europe have changed irrevocably since Vladimir Putin launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. News accounts today focus on speculation about the progress of the Ukrainian counteroffensive and what assurances Ukraine may receive about becoming a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. But the challenge at the moment is a conceptual one: updating our strategic assessment to reflect emerging security conditions.

Mr. Putin gambled and lost. His would-be war of conquest to reconstitute something like the Russian Empire failed more than a year ago. He is now in a war of devastation against an enemy unwilling to lose, and it will end either with his defeat and withdrawal from Ukraine or with a heavily armed, long-term standoff on either side of a de facto border determined by the progress of the fight.



Vladimir Putin in his office.

Unfortunately, Russian rhetoric remains such that we can't rule out the possibility of massive devastation of Ukraine by a Russian nuclear strike or destruction of Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant. But that's the point at which speculation about what would happen next becomes useless, because no one knows.

Nor does anyone know what would happen if some aspiring strongman decides to cross the Rubicon that Wagner Group chief Yevgeny Prigozhin approached but didn't cross. Mr. Putin has squandered substantial power throughout the Russian Federation over the past 18 months. Others may dare to try and seize it.

Unfortunately, Russian rhetoric remains such that we can't rule out the possibility of massive devastation of Ukraine by a Russian nuclear strike or destruction of Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant. But that's the point at which speculation about what would happen next becomes useless, because no one knows. Nor does anyone know what would happen if some aspiring strongman decides to cross the Rubicon that Wagner Group chief Yevgeny Prigozhin approached but didn't cross. Mr. Putin has squandered substantial power throughout the Russian Federation over the past 18 months. Others may dare to try and seize it.

Even in defeat, however, Russia isn't going anywhere. It is difficult now to fault Russia's Baltic neighbors and other Central and Eastern European NATO members for their often-voiced post-Cold War suspicions about Russian intentions. Were postwar Moscow somehow to turn benign, nothing guarantees it would remain so. The security needs of Russia's neighbors are permanent. That's geopolitics.



Article  
**This Isn't Your Father's NATO — cont'd.**

Exactly contrary to his express war aims in Ukraine, Mr. Putin has managed to transform Russia's geopolitical position for the worse. Sweden and Finland have moved from their long-held tactical position of NATO non-membership to all-in with the alliance.

NATO's Article 5 pledges members to regard an attack on any of them as an attack on all of them. Members have long been inclined to see this as primarily an American security commitment. But in the Winter War and Continuation War more than 75 years ago, Finland successfully fought a war of national survival against Russia.

Finland has considerable and growing military capability today. So does Sweden. Each has now not merely accepted an offer to be defended by NATO; they must pledge to defend its other members as well.

On the central front, Poland seems determined to become a consequential European military power. Ukraine seems likely to join Finland in having fought off an existential threat from Moscow, and its military is now large, capable and battle-hardened.

Consider as well Europe's collective response to Mr. Putin's attack on Ukraine. Once Ukrainians proved everyone wrong in thinking the country would collapse in 72 hours, the conversation quickly moved beyond sanctioning Russia to providing military assistance to a country whose bid for NATO membership most Europeans spurned in 2008.

This was the response of Europe to an attack on a nonmember. That bodes well for alliance solidarity.



Estonia welcomes Finland into NATO. See page 5.

Does anyone really think these are merely short-term features of European security? It is now barely a question at all whether Ukraine—if it fends off Russia—would be willing to come to the military assistance of Poland, Lithuania, or Finland in the event Russia becomes restive again a generation from now.

After 9/11, the Vilnius Group of NATO aspirants in Central and Eastern Europe declared themselves allies in fact, if not yet by treaty: They said they regarded the attack on the U.S. as an attack on themselves. It was the right thing to do diplomatically, and it exposed them to additional risk in a world whose future looked suddenly uncertain.

Ukraine, however, has established that it will fight. Not only in self-defense but also for its European aspirations and, by extension, for Europe, its trans-Atlantic partners, and the values they share.

Ukraine is already one of NATO's sharpest teeth in a collective defense arrangement that extends from the Barents Sea to the Black Sea. We just need to complete the paperwork.

*Mr. Lindberg is a senior fellow at the Hudson Institute.*



## New Issues



with **SCOTT** catalog numbers  
 From Linns' May, June and July Special Editions  
 — Don Smith

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>SCOTT #</u>	<u>DATE OF ISSUE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Austria	3010a	9-Sep-22	Railway, ss of 3 w/Austria 3010, Liechtenstein 1876, Switzerland 1891 EN 472-12
<b>Azores</b>	<b>626-7</b>	<b>9-May-22</b>	<b>Europa 2022, 626; 627 ss of 2: 626, 627a</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	<b>1357a</b>	<b>6-May-21</b>	<b>Europa 2021, booklet pane of 8, 4 each 1356-7</b>
<b>Cyprus (Turkish)</b>	<b>847-8</b>	<b>9-May-22</b>	<b>Europa 2022</b>
<b>Egypt</b>	<b>2272</b>	<b>11-Jul-22</b>	<b>EuroMed 2022, strip of 3 2272a-c EN 472-10</b>
<b>Italy</b>	<b>3867-8</b>	<b>25-Oct-22</b>	<b>Europa 2022 self-adhesive</b>
Kyrgyzstan	695a	19-Aug-22	Napoleon, in ss of 4
Kyrgyzstan	696	26-Aug-22	Eurasian Economic Commission
Liechtenstein	1876a	9-Sep-22	Railway, ss of 3 w/Liechtenstein 1876, Austria 3010, Switzerland 1891 EN 472-12
<b>Madeira</b>	<b>396-7</b>	<b>9-Sep-22</b>	<b>Europa 2022, 396; 397 ss of 2: 396, 397a</b>
Moldova	1107-8	24-Nov-21	Viticulture, joint issue w/Romania 6659-60 EN 467-6
<b>Moldova</b>	<b>1117</b>	<b>19-Apr-22</b>	<b>Peace and Security</b>
<b>Moldova</b>	<b>1118-9</b>	<b>29-Apr-22</b>	<b>Europa 2022</b>
<b>Morocco</b>	<b>1320</b>	<b>11-Jul-22</b>	<b>EuroMed 2022 EN 472-9</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	<b>1646</b>	<b>9-May-22</b>	<b>Europa 2022, se-tenant pair 1646a-b booklet with 3 panes, each with pair 1646a-b</b>
<b>Norway</b>	<b>1939-40</b>	<b>22-Apr-22</b>	<b>Europa 2022, self-adhesive 1940a horizontal pr, 1940b bklt 5 each 1939-1940</b>
Poland	4658	6-Mar-23	Emil Korytko, joint issue w/Slovenia 1530 EN 475-10
<b>Portugal</b>	<b>4401-2</b>	<b>9-May-22</b>	<b>Europa 2022, 4402 ss of 2: 4401, 4402a</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	<b>4415-6</b>	<b>11-Jul-22</b>	<b>EuroMed 2022 EN 472-11</b>
Portugal	4429-30	15-Sep-22	Euro Coins, 4429 se-tenant pair a-b, 4430 ss of 1 EN 472-13
<b>Portugal</b>	<b>4433</b>	<b>27-Sep-22</b>	<b>Peace and Solidarity with Ukraine EN 472-6</b>
Romania	6802-3	16-Sep-22	Dip. relations w/Sovereign Military Order of Malta



**New Issues**



with **SCOTT** catalog numbers  
**From Linns' May, June and July Special Editions**  
 — Don Smith

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>SCOTT #</u>	<u>DATE OF ISSUE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Serbia	1005-6	1-Feb-22	Novi Sad, European Capital of Culture 2022
<b>Serbia</b>	<b>1029</b>	<b>6-May-22</b>	<b>Europa 2022</b>
Serbia	1037-8	24-Jun-22	European Nature Protection EN 472-13
Serbia	1051	16-Sep-22	Diplomatic relations with Azerbaijan
Serbia	1052	29-Sep-22	Diplomatic relations w/Portugal EN 472-13
Serbia	1054	3-Oct-22	Joy of Europe EN 472-12
Serbia	1061	19-Oct-22	Diplomatic relations with Denmark EN 472-13
Serbia	1069	25-Nov-22	Sts Cyril & Methodius, Patron Saints of Europe
Slovenia	1530	6-Mar-23	Emil Korytko, joint issue w/Poland 4658 EN 475-10
Spain	4676	17-Mar-23	Euro coin
Switzerland	1891a	9-Sep-22	Railway, ss of 3 w/Switzerland 1891, Austria 3010, Liechtenstein 1876 EN 472-12
Switzerland	1909-10	29-Mar-23	Customs Treaty with Liechtenstein EN 475-8
<b>Switzerland</b>	<b>1911-2</b>	<b>9-May-23</b>	<b>Europa 2023</b>
<b>Turkey</b>	<b>3800-1</b>	<b>9-May-22</b>	<b>Europa 2022</b>
<b>Turkey</b>	<b>3805</b>	<b>19-Jul-22</b>	<b>EuroMed 2022</b>
Vatican City	1809	16-Nov-22	Diplomatic relations w/Belarus, joint issue

**Great American Stamp Show 2023**  
 Cleveland, OH

**WHEN:**

**August 10-13, 2023**

Thurs. - Sat. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. •  
 Sun. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Co-hosted by the American Philatelic Society, the American Topical Association  
 and the American First Day Cover Society



Sponsored by the USPS



**LOCATION:**

Huntington Convention Center  
 of Cleveland  
 Hall C

## Article Europa Briefs

### All Things Come to Those Who Wait Dept.:

New member Daren Fairhurst was rummaging through our website when he came across the Q&A section. Lo and behold, he had an answer to a question that has sat dormant for years. Here goes:

Hi Dana

Going through the site - it's great and will become a main source of info for my collecting.

I thought I would contribute a little and I have an answer to Q2 in the Questions and Answers section. Looking at the image on a similar Benham cover I believe the image is of Sputnik 3. Sputnik 3 was a Soviet satellite launched on 15 May 1958 from Baikonur Cosmodrome by a modified R-7/SS-6 ICBM. The scientific satellite carried a large array of instruments for geophysical research of the upper atmosphere and near space. Sputnik 3 was the only Soviet satellite launched in 1958.

Here's a copy of the image of the alternative cover:



You have to admit it — that satellite looks like something out of a 1940-1950s SF serial/TV show. Remember “Radar Men From the Moon”



### Posters on Europa stamps:

About a decade ago, I was approached by an official of the Poster Stamp Collectors Club. They had heard that a series of Europa stamps had been devoted to poster art. Would I care to write up something about our club? The answer to such a question has to be “Of course.”

The resulting article is presented on the following pages. It appeared in the July 2015 edition of the “PSCC Journal”. It turns out that a lot of us stamp collectors have more than one interest. Our auction manager Don Smith, besides Europa, has a nicely researched collection on Napoleon Bonaparte. Director Caroline Scannel, a Distinguished Topical Philatelist, is President of the [Old World Archaeological Society](#) and collects Universal Postal Union stamps too. Your Humble Editor is interested in World Wildlife Fund, and Tonny VanLoij, our Vice President, has won Best In Show awards for his research into Thurn & Taxis.

There are lots of other intersectional interests out there. The Europa topic lends itself to overlaps with Stamps on Stamps, and there is an organization for that too — the [Joint Stamp Issues Society](#). It's amazing how much they've identified and cataloged. ■



## Article

## Posters on Europa stamps — Dana Roper

**Posters on EUROPA stamps** – by Dana Roper, President of the Europa Study Unit of the ATA

EUROPA stamps are special stamps issued by European postal administrations under the aegis of *PostEurop* which have Europe as their central theme. They are among the most collected and most popular stamps in the world. ...*from the PostEurop web site*

So, what is “EUROPA”?

After World War II, the Marshall Plan played an enormous role in getting a struggling Europe back on its feet. At the same time, visionaries in Europe saw an opportunity to actualize what until then had been only a dream – the unification of Europe. Robert Schuman of France proposed an alliance between France, Germany and Italy to forge a common market in coal and steel, an alliance that would, if realized, make war untenable if not impossible. The BENELUX countries signed on to the idea, and together the six formed the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) in 1952. By 1954 the agency had removed nearly all barriers to trade between its members in coal, coke, steel, pig iron, and scrap iron. As a consequence, trade in these commodities rose dramatically in the 1950s.

In 1956, the six member countries decided to issue a set of stamps with a common design to publicize the success of this common market. The accepted design was inspired by a poster created for the Marshall Plan titled “Reconstructing Europe”:



The set of stamps from Luxembourg is shown below (Sc. 318–320). They show the word “EUROPA”, adopted to signify a United Europe, surrounded by scaffolding with the “E” flag flying in the background. (The “E” flag was the precursor to the current flag of twelve stars).

Article  
Posters on Europa stamps — cont'd



Another very powerful Marshall Plan poster was designed by Turkish artist Kennen Temizan. A chopped tree trunk with an axe at its side and new growth sprouting out from the top conveys the message that despite the devastation of the war, life is beginning anew. It is titled "Despite Everything", and Turkey used this for a set of stamps in 1958 to promote the Europa idea. (Sc. 1427-8)



The Europa stamps were continued each year thereafter, and in 1959 the Conference of European Post and Telecommunications (CEPT) was formed, and this new body took over the administration of Europa stamps. The CEPT had many more members than the original "Inner Six" of the ECSC, and in 1960 the EUROPA stamps series took off.

The idea of a common design continued, and in 1960 the design was a wheel with 19 spokes, for the 19 members of the CEPT, as seen on this Belgian stamp (Sc. 553).



## Article

## Posters on Europa stamps — cont'd



The next year was arguably the most popular of all Europa designs – a formation of 19 doves in flight forming a single dove, Iceland (Sc.340):



### Common Themes

The common design approach continued until 1974, at which time it was decided to switch to a common theme instead. Only the CEPT logo (or letters) on each stamp



indicates that the stamp is a "Europa stamp".

This approach, with only two exceptions, has continued to the present and it's generally agreed that this was a good move, as it made a Europa collection more visually – and culturally -- interesting.

In 1993 the CEPT decided to focus more on telecommunications. A new organization, *PostEurop*, was formed which took over the management of the Europa issues as well as the responsibility for perpetuating the tradition of the Europa stamps and ensuring its evolution. A new logo was also created to replace the CEPT

logo, **■EUROPA**, consisting of a modern rendition of the word EUROPA preceded by a stylized mailbox.

Each year, PostEurop's Stamps & Philately Working Group selects the Europa stamp theme. The Working Group organizes a European Philately Forum every two years with the active participation from all PostEurop Members. In 2003, the subject chosen was "Poster Art" and this produced some very visually appealing stamps, such as:

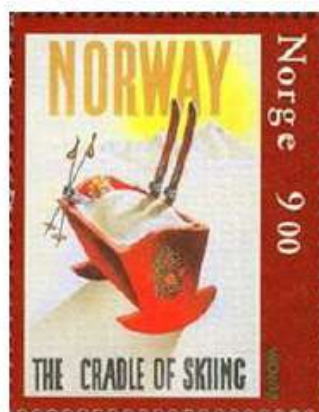
Article  
**Posters on Europa stamps — cont'd**



France: Poster by Raymond Savignac (Sc. 2943)



Ireland: poster by Paul Henry (Sc.1469)



Norway: Poster by Knut Yran (Sc. 1375)

## Article

## Posters on Europa stamps — cont'd

The complete set of stamp designs can be seen at this website:

<http://www.ibolli.it/cat/cept/cept03/cept03.php>

In order to promote Europa issues among philatelists, PostEurop created in 2002 an annual competition of the “Best Europa stamp”. The winner of the contest in 2003 was this stamp from Monaco, poster by Jean-Gabriel Domergue (Sc. 2291):



This is my personal favorite as well. I'm a guy. Need I explain any further? The best Europa stamp was selected by the members of PostEurop during their yearly plenary assembly until 2007, when the competition was opened to public voting. This allowed EUROPA enthusiasts to vote for their most preferred stamp on PostEurop's website <http://www.posteurop.org/EUROPA%20Stamps>.

#### The Europa Study Unit

The Europa Study Unit is a stamp club for all who are interested in the philatelic manifestations of the **Europa** ideal of political, economic, and social integration of Europe. Europa collectors may limit themselves to just the annual 'themed' issues for Europa, but an expanded collection will also include forerunners (such as advocates of unity, previous attempts at unity, sporting events, etc.) and current issues that commemorate organizations and events that relate to the unification of Europe.

We are an affiliate of the American Philatelic Society (APS) and the American Topical Association (ATA). You do not need to join either organization to become a member of the ESU. For more information, visit our website at <http://www.europastudyunit.org/>



## The Back Page

## European Years

## What's a European Year?

It's an awareness campaign on a specific issue to encourage debate and dialogue in and between EU countries. It highlights a particular issue to national governments, and aims to both inform and change attitudes.

The European Commission proposes the theme for a European Year, which is then adopted by the European Parliament and EU member governments. Although European years have been running for nearly 40 years, they don't necessarily occur every year.

—*from the EU website, under "Priorities and Actions"*

More often than not, a European Year is publicized philatelically, by a stamp issue or slogan cancel, or both. The most recent of these was 2021, the European Year of Rail, which had a number of countries recognizing it with postage stamps.



For 2022, the initiative was the European Year of Youth, which was given a logo, but to the best of my knowledge, no stamps. If I missed something, please set me straight.

The next theme is being extended across two years. 2023 and 2024 will be recognized as the European Year of Skills:



“Across the European Union, events and activities will be held to help people get the right skills for quality jobs and help companies address skill shortages. Job-seekers and employers alike will get access to numerous opportunities, share experiences and insights, and find out how EU initiatives and funding possibilities can help.”

It has a logo, but no stamps yet. ■

**EUROPA NEWS is the bulletin of the *EUROPA STUDY UNIT*, APS# 219613**  
 AN ASSOCIATION DEVOTED TO THE STUDY OF PHILATELIC MATERIALS COVERING THE IDEA OF A UNITED  
 EUROPE: ECONOMIC & SOCIAL.  
[www.europastudyunit.org](http://www.europastudyunit.org)

**EDITOR:** Mr. Dana Roper, 7266 Prices Cove Pl, Gainesville, VA 20155; **email:** droper729@gmail.com

**OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:** **PRESIDENT:** Mr. Dana Roper **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:** open  
**VICE PRESIDENT:** Mr. Tonny Van Loij, **2nd VICE PRESIDENT:** open **TREASURER:** Mr. Alex Cwiekalo

**DIRECTORS:** Alex Cwiekalo, Ms. Caroline Scannel **WEBMASTER:** Dana Roper (acting)

**AUCTION MANAGER:** Mr. Donald W. Smith, 1633 Florida Ave, Johnstown, PA 15902.

**EUROPA HANDBOOK:** Alex Cwiekalo

**ANNUAL DUES** (Including one year of the *EUROPA NEWS*): **Electronic Membership only \$10/yr;**  
**Standard Membership (hardcopy of EN mailed): \$20/yr USA; \$30/yr other. *Dues are payable as of January 1st each year; don't let your subscription lapse!*** Payments must be in U.S. Dollars; cash, bank draft, or a money order made payable to the EUROPA STUDY UNIT.

**Send payment (and donations) to:**

**Mr. Alex Cwiekalo, Treasurer 2525 W Choctaw Dr, London, OH 43140-9081**

**We also have a PayPal account name: europastudyunit, email: eunity415.sl@gmail.com**  
 to which payments can be transferred. If you use PayPal, please add 7% to cover PayPal costs.