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Frontcover.
FEPA Pennant, c. 1990

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Philatelic Friends,

Welcome to the latest issue of FEPA News, which we have sub-titled 'The Journal of European Philately' for the benefit of readers who may not be familiar with FEPA and its work. It is published shortly after the 30th anniversary of the first FEPA Congress, held in London on 11th May 1990, and we are celebrating the occasion with a featured article on Dr Alan Huggins RDP who was instrumental in creating FEPA and was its first President.

I am sure we will all remember 2020. After a routine start in January the pandemic came upon us with amazing speed in February and March bringing devastation in its wake and severe restrictions on what we could do as we tried to contain its spread that have changed our lives completely. We were obliged to stay at home with only essential travel permitted. Meetings in groups were banned and we were required to distance ourselves socially from other people. These restrictions have struck at the heart of organised philately and consequently almost all meetings, events and exhibitions planned from March onwards have been cancelled or postponed and we have been left to carry on our philately at home. As I write it is impossible to know how quickly we will be able to return to the world we took for granted until February. However, it seems probable that restrictions will continue for some time although they may vary between countries.

The philatelic community has responded vigorously in trying to find alternative ways to meet and stay in touch, even as it was no longer able to gather in groups. From a standing start programmes of virtual meetings and seminars have been put together with great speed in many countries and seem to have been a popular innovation. There have also been many initiatives to maintain collectors' interest by publishing material on websites and making journals available free to all on the net. A virtual exhibition is even been planned. Will these innovations become a permanent part of philatelic life? Given that they offer collectors greater access at less cost it is hard to believe that demand for them will not continue. At the same time we have to remember that social interaction is vital to organised philately. The opportunity to meet people with shared interests and learn from them is an essential part of what we do.

FEPA has tried to play its part. The Board has held several successful meetings by video conference and there has been a regular flow of news and interesting items posted on its website. We have also introduced a regular Newsletter to draw wide attention to recent developments, including the publication of FEPA NEWS when it appears. We hope this will encourage Federations to look at how they can apply ideas and innovations to their own circumstances. We have asked Federations to help by nominating contact points to feed information to us and I urge Federations who have not yet made a nomination to do so quickly. This will give all Members greater benefit from FEPA membership.

The loss of many exhibitions and meetings in recent months has inevitably reduced the quantity of news to report. In its place we are publishing papers looking at FEPA's past and future that we hope will start a discussion about revision of the FEPA Statutes, an important project that we propose to carry forward over the next year. We also invited Federations to provide reports and articles for publication and a number of these are included to stimulate and entertain you. The primary purpose of FEPA News is to record what is going on in European philately but I hope we may be allowed a little latitude from time to time to interpret that remit broadly, especially in view of the exceptional circumstances of 2020.

May I conclude by sending my warmest greetings and best wishes to all our readers and to everyone associated with FEPA in any capacity as we adapt to life during these difficult times. I am sure we can look forward confidently to better days and I look forward very much to meeting you all again just as soon as circumstances permit.

Bill Hedley



LETTRE DU PRÉSIDENT

Translation by Nicos Rangos

Chers Amis Philatélistes,

Bienvenue dans le dernier numéro de FEPA News, que nous avons sous-titré "The Journal of European Philately" pour les lecteurs qui ne connaissent peut-être pas la FEPA et ses travaux. Il est publié peu de temps après le 30e anniversaire du premier congrès de la FEPA, qui s'est tenu à Londres le 11 mai 1990, et nous célébrons l'occasion avec un article vedette sur le Dr Alan Huggins RDP qui a joué un rôle déterminant dans la création de la FEPA et en a été le premier Président.

Je suis sûr que nous nous souviendrons tous de 2020. Après un début de routine en janvier, la pandémie s'est abattue sur nous à une vitesse incroyable en février et mars, entraînant des ravages dans son sillage et de sévères restrictions sur ce que nous pouvions faire alors que nous tentions de contenir sa propagation qui a changé nos vies complètement. Nous avons été obligés de rester à la maison, seuls les voyages essentiels étant autorisés. Les réunions en groupe étaient interdites et nous devions nous distancier socialement des autres. Ces restrictions ont frappé le cœur de la philatélie organisée et, par conséquent, presque toutes les réunions, manifestations et expositions prévues à partir de mars ont été annulées ou reportées et nous avons été laissés pour continuer notre philatélie à la maison. Au moment où j'écris, il est impossible de savoir à quelle vitesse nous pourrions retourner dans le monde que nous tenions pour acquis jusqu'en février. Cependant, il semble probable que les restrictions se poursuivront pendant un certain temps, bien qu'elles puissent varier d'un pays à l'autre.

La communauté philatélique a réagi vigoureusement en essayant de trouver d'autres moyens de se rencontrer et de rester en contact, même si elle n'était plus en mesure de se réunir en groupe. D'un point de vue initial, des programmes de réunions et de séminaires virtuels ont été mis en place à grande vitesse dans de nombreux pays et semblent avoir été une innovation populaire. De nombreuses initiatives ont également été prises pour maintenir l'intérêt des collectionneurs en publiant du matériel sur des sites Web et en rendant les revues accessibles gratuitement à tous sur le net. Une exposition virtuelle est même prévue. Ces innovations feront-elles partie intégrante de la vie philatélique? Étant donné qu'ils offrent aux collectionneurs un meilleur accès à moindre coût, il est difficile de croire que leur demande ne se poursuivra pas. En même temps, nous devons nous rappeler que l'interaction sociale est vitale pour la philatélie organisée. La possibilité de rencontrer des personnes ayant des intérêts communs et d'en tirer des enseignements est un élément essentiel de notre action.

La FEPA a essayé de jouer son rôle. Le Conseil a tenu plusieurs réunions réussies par vidéo-conférence et un flux régulier de nouvelles et d'articles intéressants a été publié sur son site Web. Nous avons également introduit une lettre d'information régulière pour attirer l'attention sur les développements récents, y compris la publication de FEPA NEWS lorsqu'elle paraîtra. Nous espérons que cela encouragera les fédérations à examiner comment elles peuvent appliquer des idées et des innovations à leur propre situation. Nous avons demandé aux fédérations de nous aider en désignant des points de contact pour nous fournir des informations et j'exhorte les fédérations qui n'ont pas encore fait de nomination à le faire rapidement. Cela permettra à tous les membres de bénéficier davantage de l'adhésion à la FEPA.

La perte de nombreuses expositions et réunions ces derniers mois a inévitablement réduit la quantité de nouvelles à rapporter. À sa place, nous publions des articles sur le passé et l'avenir de la FEPA qui, nous l'espérons, entameront une discussion sur la révision des statuts de la FEPA, un projet important que nous proposons de poursuivre au cours de l'année prochaine. Nous avons également invité les Fédérations à fournir des rapports et des articles à publier et un certain nombre d'entre eux sont inclus pour vous stimuler et vous divertir. L'objectif principal de FEPA News est d'enregistrer ce qui se passe dans la philatélie européenne, mais j'espère que nous pourrions avoir de temps en temps une petite latitude pour interpréter ce mandat de manière large, en particulier compte tenu des circonstances exceptionnelles de 2020.

Puis-je conclure en adressant mes salutations les plus chaleureuses et mes meilleurs vœux à tous nos lecteurs et à toutes les personnes associées à la FEPA à quelque titre que ce soit, alors que nous nous adaptons à la vie en ces temps difficiles. Je suis sûr que nous pouvons espérer avec confiance des jours meilleurs et je me réjouis de vous revoir tous dès que les circonstances le permettront.

Bill Hedley



OFFENER BRIEF DES PRÄSIDENTEN

Liebe Freunde der Philatelie,

willkommen zur zweiten Ausgabe der FEPA News im Jahr 2020, welche den Untertitel „Das Journal der Europäischen Philatelie“ trägt. Ich möchte damit beginnen all unseren Lesern und jedem, der mit der FEPA in einer Funktion zu tun hat, in dieser schwierigen Zeit, in der wir unser Leben anpassen müssen, meine wärmsten Grüße und besten Wünsche zu senden.

Ich bin sicher, wir alle werden uns an das Jahr 2020 erinnern. Nach einem normalen Beginn im Jänner kam im Februar und März die Pandemie mit unglaublicher Geschwindigkeit über uns. Um die Verbreitung einzudämmen brachte sie heftige Einschränkungen mit sich, die unser Leben komplett geändert haben. Wir wurden angehalten, außer bei wichtigen Gründen, zu Hause zu bleiben. Zusammenkünfte von Gruppen wurden verboten und wir waren genötigt, uns selbst gesellschaftlich von anderen Leuten zu distanzieren. Diese Einschränkungen haben das Herz der organisierten Philatelie getroffen und somit wurden natürlich auch alle Treffen, Veranstaltungen und Ausstellungen, von März beginnend, abgesagt oder verschoben. Es war nur mehr möglich mit der Philatelie zu Hause fortzufahren. Es ist derzeit unmöglich zu wissen, wie schnell wir imstande sein werden, zu einer Welt, wie sie vor Februar war, zurückzukehren. Wie immer, es sieht so aus, dass es weiter Einschränkungen für einige Zeit geben wird, wenngleich sie zwischen den einzelnen Ländern unterschiedlich sein werden.

Die philatelistische Gemeinschaft ist dadurch stark gefragt alternative Wege zu finden, um sich zu treffen und in Verbindung zu bleiben, gerade weil es nicht möglich ist, sich in Gruppen zu versammeln. Bestehende Programme von virtuellen Meetings und Seminaren ließen uns in vielen Ländern schnell wieder zusammenfinden und es sieht so aus, als wäre dies eine beliebte Neuerung. Es gab viele Initiativen um die Interessen der Sammler durch die Herausgabe von Material in Internetseiten und durch das Freischalten von Journalen im Netz zu unterstützen. Eine virtuelle Ausstellung wird gleichfalls vorgeschlagen. Wird diese Neuerung zukünftig ein ständiger Teil des philatelistischen Lebens sein? Es wird dies dem Sammler einen Zugriff zu geringen Kosten ermöglichen und es ist schwer zu glauben, dass dieser Vorteil nicht fortgesetzt wird. Gleichzeitig wollen wir uns daran erinnern, dass soziale Einwirkungen die organisierte Philatelie beleben. Die Möglichkeit Menschen mit gemeinsamen Interessen zu treffen und von diesen zu lernen, ist ein wichtiger Teil von dem, was wir tun.

FEPA hat versucht ihren Teil beizutragen. Der Vorstand hat mehrere erfolgreiche Meetings per Videokonferenz abgehalten und es wurden regelmäßig Neuigkeiten und Interessantes in der Website angezeigt. Wir haben auch einen regelmäßigen Newsletter eingeführt um mehr Aufmerksamkeit für neue Entwicklungen zu zeigen, inklusive der Publikation der FEPA News, wenn die Zeitung erscheint. Wir hoffen, dass wir so die Verbände ermutigen können zu sehen, wie Ideen und Neuerungen im eigenen Bereich verwirklicht werden können. Wir haben die Verbände gebeten uns Kontakte zu nennen, die uns Informationen zukommen lassen und ich bitte die Verbände dringend, die das bis dato noch nicht gemacht haben, dies möglichst bald zu tun. Dadurch haben alle Mitglieder einen größeren Vorteil von der FEPA Zugehörigkeit.

Der Verlust von vielen Ausstellungen und Treffen in den letzten Monaten hat zwangsläufig auch die Anzahl an zu berichtenden Neuigkeiten reduziert. Stattdessen veröffentlichen wir Unterlagen, um eine Diskussion über die Änderung der Statuten zu starten. Dies ist ein wichtiges Projekt, das wir im nächsten Jahr vorhaben. Wir haben jedoch auch Verbände eingeladen, Reporte und Artikel für eine Veröffentlichung zu schreiben und eine Anzahl dieser ist in der Zeitung inkludiert. Der hauptsächliche Zweck der FEPA News ist über Aktivitäten der Europäischen philatelistischen Organisationen zu berichten, aber ich hoffe, dass Sie es mir erlauben, ein wenig über dieses Ziel hinauszugehen, speziell im Hinblick auf die außergewöhnlichen Umstände in 2020.

Darf ich mir zu sagen erlauben, dass ich sicher zuversichtlich bin auf besser Tage in der Zukunft zu schauen und ich hoffe sehr stark, Sie zu wieder zu treffen, sobald es die Umstände erlauben.



Queridos amigos filatélicos,

Bienvenidos al nuevo número de FEPA News, que hemos subtitulado 'The Journal of European Philately' para el beneficio de los lectores que no estén familiarizados con la FEPA y su trabajo. Se publica poco después del 30º aniversario del primer Congreso de la FEPA, celebrado en Londres el 11 de mayo de 1990, y celebramos la ocasión con un artículo destacado sobre el Dr. Alan Huggins RDP, quien fue decisivo en la creación de la FEPA y fue su primer Presidente.

Estoy seguro de que todos recordaremos el 2020. Después de un comienzo rutinario en enero, la pandemia se nos vino encima con una velocidad asombrosa en febrero y marzo, trayendo consigo una devastación y severas restricciones sobre lo que podíamos hacer mientras tratábamos de contener su propagación que han cambiado nuestras vidas por completo. Nos vimos obligados a quedarnos en casa con sólo los viajes esenciales permitidos. Se prohibieron las reuniones en grupo y nos obligaron a distanciarnos socialmente de otras personas. Estas restricciones han golpeado el corazón de la filatelia organizada y por lo tanto casi todas las reuniones, eventos y exposiciones planeadas a partir de marzo han sido canceladas o pospuestas y nos han dejado continuar nuestra filatelia en casa. Mientras escribo es imposible saber cuán rápido podremos volver al mundo que dábamos por sentado hasta febrero. Sin embargo, parece probable que las restricciones continúen durante algún tiempo, aunque pueden variar de un país a otro.

La comunidad filatélica ha respondido enérgicamente tratando de encontrar formas alternativas de reunirse y mantenerse en contacto, incluso cuando ya no era capaz de reunirse en grupos. Desde un principio los programas de reuniones y seminarios virtuales se han organizado con gran rapidez en muchos países y parecen haber sido una innovación popular. También ha habido muchas iniciativas para mantener el interés de los coleccionistas mediante la publicación de material en páginas Web y la puesta a disposición de revistas gratuitas para todos en la red. Incluso se ha previsto una exposición virtual. ¿Se convertirán estas innovaciones en una parte permanente de la vida filatélica? Dado que ofrecen a los coleccionistas un mayor acceso a un menor costo, es difícil creer que la demanda de las mismas no vaya a continuar. Al mismo tiempo, debemos recordar que la interacción social es vital para la filatelia organizada. La oportunidad de conocer a personas con intereses comunes y aprender de ellas es una parte esencial de lo que hacemos.

La FEPA ha tratado de desempeñar su papel. La Junta ha celebrado varias reuniones exitosas por videoconferencia y ha habido un flujo regular de noticias y artículos interesantes publicados en su página Web. También hemos introducido un boletín regular para llamar la atención sobre los últimos acontecimientos, incluyendo la publicación de FEPA NEWS cuando aparece. Esperamos que esto anime a las Federaciones a mirar cómo pueden aplicar las ideas e innovaciones a sus propias circunstancias. Hemos pedido a las Federaciones que nos ayuden nombrando puntos de contacto para que nos proporcionen información e insto a las Federaciones que aún no han hecho una nominación a que lo hagan rápidamente. Esto le dará a todos los miembros un mayor beneficio de su pertenencia a la FEPA.

La pérdida de muchas exposiciones y reuniones en los últimos meses ha reducido inevitablemente la cantidad de noticias a reportar. En su lugar estamos publicando artículos que miran al pasado y al futuro de la FEPA que esperamos inicien una discusión sobre la revisión de los Estatutos de la FEPA, un importante proyecto que nos proponemos llevar adelante durante el próximo año. También invitamos a las Federaciones a proporcionar informes y artículos para su publicación y algunos de ellos se incluyen para estimular y entretenerlos. El objetivo principal de FEPA News es registrar lo que está sucediendo en la filatelia europea, pero espero que de vez en cuando se nos conceda un poco de espacio para interpretar ese cometido de manera amplia, especialmente en vista de las circunstancias excepcionales del año 2020.

Permítanme concluir enviando mis más cálidos saludos y mejores deseos a todos nuestros lectores y a todos los conectados con la FEPA por cualquier motivo mientras nos adaptamos a la vida durante estos tiempos difíciles. Estoy seguro de que podemos esperar con confianza unos días mejores y espero con gran interés volver a verlos a todos tan pronto como las circunstancias lo permitan.

Bill Hedley

FEPA News: Magazine – Website – Newsletters A European Philately Newsdesk

Costas Chazapis writes:

The FEPA Board wants to promote and publicise any sort of philatelic activity within our member federations including lectures, presentations, seminars, exhibitions, new publications, fresh and innovative ideas. We use the FEPA News magazine and website for this purpose and we try to keep it alive, vibrant and full of reports on activities from every corner of philatelic Europe.

We have been thinking about how to increase the number of readers of the magazine and website. The magazine is biannual, which means that readers do not normally expect to read breaking news there as they will already have read it on the FEPA News website or elsewhere. However, the magazine is the printed record of the whole FEPA family. It is a unique compilation of the Board's and the Federations' activities, which is great by itself. However, we wondered how much real penetration the magazine has. When copies are sent to the Federations, who actually reads them? How many Federations, out of the 44 FEPA members, distribute the magazine to their societies? Making a digital version of the magazine available on the website has been an important step forward but do the societies publicize it down the line?

Regarding the website the relationship between websites and their users has changed. A few years back we could expect readers to click on a website to pick up the news. Today it is a totally different story: any news website has to provide news directly to readers via their computers, tablets or smart phones.

As a first step in trying to increase our readership, we have started to send out regular newsletters to our mailing list. Each newsletter comprises a selection of the latest posts from the website. In addition, when a new number of the FEPA News magazine is published, the next newsletter will publicise it and give a link to it.

Secondly, we want to broaden our scope of interest. Our member federations will have priority but we have extended our scope to promote the activities of philatelic organisations more generally. FEPA exists to promote and encourage philately in Europe and, with this in mind, we want to accommodate interesting reports from philatelic academies, museums, publishers, libraries, postal authorities, dealers, auctioneers as well as from the federations for the benefit of European philatelists. Through the FEPA News triad (magazine, website, newsletters) we hope to create the European Philately Newsdesk that seems to have been missing. With your help of course. So, please stay tuned and spread the word around! If anyone would like to be added to the mailing list, just let me know at info@fepanews.com.



Exhibition frames: A survey... and then?

Giancarlo Morolli writes:

From time to time a member federation is involved in organizing an international show and discover that they require a number of frames that cannot be sourced locally.

Most federations had frames built some decades ago, often by (or with the support of) the National Post and over time these have become unusable due to lack of maintenance, mishandling or poor manufacturing (or a combination of them). Furthermore, where the Post Office has gone from being part of a Ministry to a private Company, the attention paid to philately has changed. In particular the conservation and storage of frames has become a burden hardly tolerated by the new management.

As the cost of making new frames has become prohibitive, an alternative is to turn to another federation. We know that in the past there were loans of frames even over long distances (a Spanish private company took its frames and mounting crew to Bucharest in 2007). At present, it could be of interest to establish common "hubs" for storage so that the relevant costs could be shared among federations. Hence, we have launched a fact-finding survey to get a picture of the current situation, which could be a reference in case of further developments. In particular, it asks if federations are prepared to share their frames with other federations and if they are interested in creating a multi-federation network with agreed storage points. Once I have received a significant number of responses we shall circulate the data to member federations and start to analyse the feasibility of a project on the basis of the indications received.

CHRIS KING, CARLO GIOVANARDI AND HENRIK MOURITSEN ARE AWARDED THE FEPA MEDALS 2019

Giancarlo Morolli, FEPA Vice-President, writes:

At its video conference on 29 February 2020 the FEPA Board carefully considered the proposals received from member Federations for FEPA Medals 2019. The recipients of the FEPA awards are:

FEPA Medal 2019 for exceptional service to organised philately:

CHRIS KING (United Kingdom)

Chris King is one of the leading philatelists of his generation and has made a major contribution to just about every aspect of philately. He has been President of the Royal Philatelic Society London and has played a central role in every aspect of the recent project to move the Society to new premises in the City of London. He also oversees the Society's collections including the Museum of Philatelic History. He is a Member of the Board of Election to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists and has produced several Large Gold Medal exhibits as well being an international juror. He has also received many awards including the European Parliament's Medal for Philately and the Lichtenstein Award. He is an inveterate traveller and has visited and given encouragement to philatelists in many countries around the world. His approach is always innovative and stimulating and he represents the best traditions of philately as a centre of excellence and a channel for bringing people of all nations together.



FEPA Medal 2019 for exceptional support to organised philately:

CARLO GIOVANARDI (Italy)

Carlo Giovanardi was a member of the Italian parliament for three legislatures, Minister and Vice President of the Chamber of Deputies. He carried out an intense and fruitful promotion and support for philately in Italy, that he has continued after he left the Parliament. Founder and chairman of the "Parliamentarians' Friends of Philately Group" he conceived and promoted prestigious philately, history and postal exhibitions on different periods of Italian history at the Chamber of Deputies, at the Palazzo del Quirinale, seat of the President of the Italian Republic, and in San Marino. These exhibitions were documented through important books. Furthermore, he presented and got approved a law against the falsification of stamps no longer valid for postage, aimed at defrauding collectors. He also conducted and still carries out vigorous political campaigns drawing attention to and opposing legislative provisions harmful to philately.



FEPA Medal 2019 for exceptional philatelic study and research:

HENRIK MOURITSEN (Denmark) for "Danish Postal History 1875-1907"

Henrik Mouritsen applies his scientific skills from his professional life and his character as a perfectionist into his collecting. His interest in stamps started when he was nine years old. Already as a junior exhibitor, he was focussed on Danish stamps and covers from the 1870-1907 period. His postal history exhibit "Danish Postal Rates 1875-1907" is famous for being the first Danish exhibit of non-first issues ever to get a FIP large gold medal (Bangkok 2003). Later, the exhibit won Grand Prix International at IBRA 2009. His traditional and postal stationery exhibits also won multiple FIP large gold medals. In fact, Henrik has never exhibited an 8-frame exhibit at a FIP or FEPA exhibition that did not get at least 95 points. Henrik is a FIP postal history judge and member of the Postal History Bureau of the FIP. Henrik's exhibits have always been based on intense studies of original archival sources and he is the initiator and keeper of the database recording documenting the rarity of Danish domestic stamp-franked mail 1851-1907. Before writing the 6 volume Handbook on Danish and UPU Postal History 1875-1907, he published more than 40 philatelic journal articles.



A Certificate has been awarded to the runners-up:

Hans-Werner Salzmänn (Germany)

Witold Mikołajczyk (Poland)

Calin Marinescu (Romania)

Edward Klempka (U.K.)

Mehmet Akan

Timur Kuran (Turkey)

A review of these books is presented at Pages [55-57].

FEPA Certificate of Appreciation 2019 for outstanding activities for the promotion of philately

Certificates have been awarded to:



Der Verein für Briefmarkenkunde Bensheim
(Bensheim Philatelic Society)

A strong supporter for philately in Germany, the society has organized many exchange days with a large number of visitors over the years. Its promotional initiatives are very well known in the region between Frankfurt and Heidelberg.



The Associazione Filatelica Numismatica Scaligera

(Scaliger Philatelic and Numismatic Association) of Verona

The "Scaligera" is well known because of the bi-annual "Veronafil", now at its 134th edition, that brings together hundreds of operators and thousands of collectors from all over Italy and from several European countries. Among the many exhibitions organized by the society, the latest are "Italia 2018" and "ECTP 2019", the European Championship of Thematic Philately.



The Zainteresowań PZF „Kolejnictwo” im. Ernesta Adama Malinowskiego

(National „Railway” Club of the Polish Philatelists Union)

This Union has a long tradition and has been functioning in Poland for 35 years. The achievements of

the club include a long-lasting high number of members, frequent meetings throughout the country, support to exhibitions and publishing activities.



The Korosko filatelistslèno drustvo Ravne
(Korosko Philatelic Society)

The Society has been committed to promotion of philately, aiming at the wide audience of non-philatelists. It has organized frequent, small exhibitions focused on specific themes and new issues, and has established strong connections to local media. Another KFD distinctive characteristic is particular attention to youth.



The Grupo Filatélico y Numismático de Tenerife
(Philatelic and Numismatic Group of Tenerife)

The Grupo has a tradition of society meetings for lectures and exchange of material. Its members have been involved in the national and international philatelic life as exhibitors, members and chairmen of commissions, and organizers of successful exhibitions. This dynamic society, that has an important philatelic library and has edited several publications, has also held a large number of exhibitions.



Stamp Active Network

This leading organisation in promoting stamp collecting among young people in the UK aims to support all young collectors and junior club leaders throughout the UK. It is the only nationwide organisation dedicated to encouraging and developing youth philately. Its website was awarded a Large Gold Medal and "Best in Class" at Italia 2018.

BULGARIA AND THE BIG (FIP and FEPA) PHILATELIC EXHIBITIONS 1969-2020



Following the unavoidable decision by the Organisers to cancel BULGARIA 2020 due to the COVID-19 emergency, George Dechev and Boncho Bonev survey the major exhibitions that have taken place in Bulgaria:

Bulgaria's first hosting of a world philatelic exhibition under the patronage of FIP was in 1969 on the occasion of the ninetieth anniversary of modern Bulgarian postal communications and the issuing of the first Bulgarian postage stamps – the "Centimes". 873 exhibitors from 48 countries were participating. The Grand Prix Internationale was won by the Emaneula collector's group from Rome (Italy) with the exhibit "Early Editions of Romania". The exhibition was presented on 4282 exhibition frames and has been viewed by over 130,000 visitors. A total of 722 medals were awarded, of which 21 were Large Gold and 33 Gold.

After the indisputable interest in the exhibition by the Bulgarian society, a decision was made to repeat the philatelic festival every ten years. "Philaserdica" followed in 1979 on the occasion of the centenary of the Bulgarian Stamps with 1,000 exhibits presented on 5,000 frames from 102 countries. During the exhibition, the 48th Congress of the International Philatelic Federation (FIP) was held, discussing the issues of thematic collecting and the need to amend the rules for exhibition activities, as well as the problems of counterfeiting, work with experts, youth activities. The Philatelic Film Festival was organized for the first time.

The next world exhibition in Sofia - "Bulgaria '89" - was attended by 1,021 exhibits on 4,072 frames by philatelists from 58 countries. The Grand Prix d'Honneur was won by Chengiz Arzman (Turkey) for the exhibit "Postal History of the Ottoman Empire", and the Grand Prix Internationale was awarded to Alberto Barcella (Italy) with the exhibit "Serbia". In the Court d'Honneur the great gems of world philately were shown - the blue and red "Mauritius". There was the Philatelic Film Festival again. 36,320 entrance tickets were sold to the visitors to the exhibition and over 50,000 visits from reusable season tickets were registered. The exhibition was visited free of charge

by over 60,000 children. During the "Bulgaria '89" the 58 Congress of FIP was held, which discussed various financial issues of the organization, as well as the long-term programme proposed by President Ladislav Dvorzacek. The Constituent Congress of the Federation of European Philatelic Associations (FEPA) also took place in Sofia during this exhibition.

The next exhibitions which took place in Bulgaria were under the patronage of FEPA. The exhibition "Bulgaria '99" was attended by 226 exhibits from 33 countries, located on 955 exhibition frames, and the total exhibition area was over 2500 square meters. A total of 202 medals were awarded, of which 4 were Large Gold and 15 Gold medals. In 2009 the exhibition "Bulgaria 2009" was on 1300 exhibition frames, located on 3000 sq.m., with participants from Europe, USA, Canada and other countries. The anniversary of the establishment of FEPA was solemnly celebrated. Spas Panchev received the Grand Prix in the National Class for the exhibit "Post Offices in Bulgaria until 1879", and in the International class - Wolf Hess for his "Finland".

The situation in 2019 was special. Due to limited funding, the European Philatelic Exhibition "Plovdiv Phila 2019" was held not under the patronage, but with the support, of the Federation of European Philatelic Associations (FEPA). Its volume was 500 exhibition frames. 20 countries participated. And since a crisis offers new opportunities, this exhibition gave birth to some significant and valuable innovations in our opinion:

1. The exhibition was not of a competitive nature. There was no jury, but national commissioners and recognized experts, including FIP jurors and Jury team leaders, voted for the best exhibits in the national and international class. The winners were: Mr. Idor GATTI for his superb collection "Bulgaria" and Mr. Vittorio MORANI for the impressive exhibit "TUSCANY 1848-1866 letter mail in, from and to Tuscany. Route, rates and Charges".
2. As far as we know, according to the rules of FIP, only collections in the format of 1, 5 and 6-8 frames are allowed in the exhibitions. 2-4 boards are possible

only in the Youth class. This restriction was lifted in this exhibition. As a result, Mr. Gatti showed his collection on more than 100 frames. This gave both philatelists and the general public an exceptional opportunity to enjoy this incredible philatelic treasure. From Italy and Turkey many valuable collections were shown on 2,3 and 4 frames with rare philatelic material, unknown until then to the philatelic community.

In 2020, some funding was provided for an exhibition under the patronage of FIP. As is well known, the Balkanfila Group is a model for cooperation between the philatelic federations of the member states. The project was joined by the Post of the Republic of Turkey, which generously offered their own frames for the exhibition. The Union of Bulgarian Philatelists faced a very serious challenge - to organize a world exhibition of about 1500 frames in about eight months. This mobilized us and we started to act innovatively.

With the appointed FIP consultant Mr. Ylgal Nathaniel, who proved to be extremely competent and effective, we created the IREX of the exhibition which we sent to the 92 member federations of FIP through special software, ensuring tracking the reading of the message by the recipients. The receipt of information on the appointed national commissioners and the nominations for jurors had started. By March 10, well before the deadline, twenty-three national federations had confirmed their participation in the exhibition. Unfortunately, a state of

emergency was declared in Bulgaria due to COVID19 and we were forced to suspend the preparations. The logo, the poster and the mascot of the exhibition are the work of famous Bulgarian artists Mr. Nenko Atanasov and Ms. Maglena Konstantinova.

The website of BULGARIA2020 is <https://bulgaria2020.com>. We urge readers to look at:

1. Bulletin No.1 of the exhibition - <https://bulgaria2020.com/wp-content/docs/2020/Bulletin/01-BULLETIN-WSCE-BG2020.pdf>
2. The application forms for exhibitors and commissioners. Both forms are digital and have to be filled in electronically. The first: https://bulgaria2020.com/wp-content/docs/2020/Applicationform/Bulgaria_2020_application_form-Exhibitors.pdf was designed to assist communication between exhibitors and national commissioners. The purpose of the second form was to serve liaison between the national commissioners and the General commissioner. It can be opened only with a password by the national commissioner and is filled in by him on the BULGARIA2020 website.

The information from these forms could be transferred automatically to an Excel spreadsheet, which would contain all details needed for the exhibition catalogue and other purposes such as class, country, name of the exhibitor, title of the exhibit, and number of frames. This automation was expected to facilitate significantly

the work of the General Commissioner's team in preparing the exhibition at its various stages. Possible spelling errors in data transfer would be avoided. We share this boring information from the kitchen of the exhibition preparation because we hope it will be useful to other colleagues in preparing future philatelic exhibitions.



Finally, a postage stamp for the annual carnival of humour and satire in the town of Gabrovo is to be put into use showing the exhibition logo. This Bulgarian stamp issue will help to preserve the memory of "Bulgaria 2020" for future generations even though regrettably it had to be cancelled. Let's hope that the crisis with COVID19 will end soon and the philatelic world will return to its normal life.

From NAPOSTA 2020 to IBRA 2021 and beyond.....

Bund Deutscher Philatelisten (BDPh) - Present and Future

NAPOSTA 2020

NAPOSTA, the Nationale Postwertzeichen Ausstellung (National Postage Stamp Exhibition), is a recurring event and there is a longstanding tradition of holding one every five years or so. This tradition had lapsed recently as the previous edition was held simultaneously with IBRA 2009 in Essen. So NAPOSTA 2020 was a very special exhibition, not only recalling the past but also looking ahead as it was the last chance for exhibitors to qualify for the forthcoming IBRA 2021. Its organisation was assigned to the Verein der Briefmarkenfreunde von Haldensleben und Umgebung, the philatelic society of Haldensleben that celebrated its hundredth anniversary in 2020. Fortunately, it was scheduled for 13-16 February, so it was able to proceed just before COVID restrictions began to wreak havoc with many other exhibition plans across the world.

Haldensleben is a town in Saxony-Anhalt, near Magdeburg, and its Roland's statue - located in front of the town hall - is well known, being the only one on horseback in Europe. Roland's theme is also well known to the best-known philatelist in town, Alfred Schmidt, who was European Champion of Thematic Philately in 2006 and 2008 and has been President of the Bund Deutscher Philatelisten (BDPh), the German Federation, since 2017.

Schmidt and Maik Schröder, together with the NAPOSTA team of volunteers from the Haldensleben and neighbouring philatelic clubs, succeeded in setting up an excellent exhibition. The Schmidt family was also heavily involved. Dr Susanne Schmidt, the BDPh President's wife, managed the cafeteria services for the delight of the visitors' palates and Alfred Schmidt, the President's son, demonstrated his talent for piano during the social evening.



The philatelic importance of the event was highlighted by the fact that 209 exhibits were on display in 800 frames. On top, 88 literature entries were shown in a separate area. The quality of the exhibits was demonstrated by the range of medals awarded - 29 large gold, 76 gold, 70 large vermeil, 21 vermeil, 10 large silver and 3 silver. The Grand Prix National went to Manfred Rheinländer, for "Thurn und Taxis". Johannes Bornmann won the Grand Prix International with "Nepal, Pre-Philately and Classic" and the Grand Prix NAPOSTA 2020 went to Iva Mouritsen for "A Royal Ménage à Trois and its Historical Consequences".



Last, but not least, there was the announcement that another NAPOSTA is under consideration in Trier in 2023, just two years after the IBRA. Holding national events in smaller or medium-sized town may be an alternative for the future and could offer the advantage of attracting a higher level of attention to events of this type which are often not noticed when hosted in larger towns.



The Bund Deutscher Philatelisten e.V. (BDPh)

The BDPh was founded after the Second World War and has its headquarters at the “House of Philately and Postal History” in Bonn.



It is the umbrella organization for eleven regional federations, one association of study groups (Arbeitsgemeinschaften) and the youth organization Deutsche Philatelisten-Jugend (DPHJ). Altogether, it encompasses about 850 local and regional associations and 130 study groups, for a total of about 27.000 members.

BDPh is one of the biggest philatelic associations worldwide, providing several hundred international and a few thousand national exhibitors. It is one of the few national federations having direct membership as well, and currently counts about 2.000 philatelists in this category. Reinhard Küchler, general manager of the BDPh, comments, “I do not foresee their number growing significantly in the future, as most collectors appreciate the social life in the association, with meetings, exchange days, personal contacts, Christmas celebrations, and so on. Philately in the community means fun, and personal contacts are very important.”

Every year the societies collectively organize approximately 1000 ‘Exchange days’ and similar public events and publish around 800 newsletters, bulletins and society magazines as well as a few dozen monographs, catalogues and books about the history of philately.



Every month the BDPh publishes a magazine entitled “Philatelie”.

Most of its content concerns German stamp history and culture, yet it does not spare a look beyond the borders. Thus, the magazine offers an extensive mix, including philately in Europe as well as in other continents. “Philatelie” is made available to every member of the local societies and study groups who are connected to the BDPh, either in printed or in digital version for download. The BDPh also offers a USB stick containing all former issues up to 2019.

Since the autumn of 2018, the BDPh has presented itself through a new website – www.bdph.de. There one can find not only information about the main association and its ramifications and contact details but also the latest news about philatelic topics in Germany and new publications.

The BDPh maintains good relations with the German Association of Stamp Dealers APHV (Allgemeiner Postwertzeichen-Händler-Verband) and the Association of Philatelic Experts BPP (Bund Philatelistischer Prüfer) as well as with the German Post (Deutsche Post AG) and the Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF), the latter being the institution that issues stamps in Germany.

The BDPh is represented in the programme advisory board and in the art advisory board of the Ministry with one vote each. Furthermore, the BDPh enjoys a good relationship with the FEPA and the FIP, and is an active

member of the “Multilaterale” exhibition that brings together all German-speaking philatelic associations, the Netherlands and Slovenia.

The management of BDPh is headed by a five-member executive board, all positions being honorary ones. Currently it consists of President Alfred Schmidt, Vice-President Jan Billion, Treasurer Walter Bernatek and two members, Konrad Krämer and Jürgen Witkowski.



BDPh President Alfred Schmidt (centre) with Vice-President Jan Billion (left) and Treasurer Walter Bernatek (right).

They are assisted by several regional office managers dealing with, for example, exhibition management, fighting forgery and philatelic literature.

“The BDPh is a lively association”, states a pleased President Alfred Schmidt. “The most important tasks for the future will be to expand the exhibition system and to gain new association members, because philately is most satisfactory if members are part of an association. In local societies one can meet friends to talk about one’s hobby”. The President speaks from experience. Having been a member of the “Briefmarkenfreunde von Haldensleben” for decades he appreciates the benefits of such membership.

Nevertheless, Alfred Schmidt is well aware of the fact that it has become a challenge to find new followers for organized philately among younger people today. First and foremost, it appears to be difficult to find volunteers to take positions on the board of the societies: “We are looking for solutions like other associations do too”, he emphasizes. “Unfortunately, the perfect solution has not been found yet. Hence we fear that the number of members might continue to decline”. This situation, in his opinion, makes it necessary that the regions to join forces under the umbrella of the BDPh. He thinks that thought should be given to forming bigger regional associations, better able to support the members in future.

Digitalization also seems to be a good opportunity according to President Schmidt. He added, “We are offering our members the possibility of downloading the BDPh magazine as pdf file. By now almost 400 readers make use of this option”. There are also a few special philatelic publications in Germany that are only published digitally, such as Phila Historica, which Alfred Schmidt considers to be in brisk demand. This is not to forget the four printed commercial philatelic magazines from different publishers: Deutsche Briefmarkenrevue, Michel-Rundschau, Briefmarkenspiegel, Deutsche Briefmarkenzeitung (DBZ) as well as the Michel-Katalog. “Philately in Germany has quite a lot to offer, we hand over our knowledge and make it accessible to those who are interested.” Besides this, there are also large specialized libraries acting independently of the BDPh. Philatelic knowledge is archived in Hamburg, Berlin, Wuppertal, Frankfurt, Zeitz and Munich.

President Schmidt is looking forward to the IBRA World Exhibition in Essen. “Organizing the IBRA means continuing a long tradition of high-class exhibitions in Germany”, says Schmidt, who has already been in the jury at international events and has exhibited at international venues. “The Philatelic World is warmly invited to come to Germany in May 2021”, he closes.

Union of Philatelists of Macedonia

FEPA News contribution, May 19, 2020

Union of Philatelists of Macedonia held its Annual Assembly meeting in December 2019. Besides the election of the president and the Executive Board, different items were on the Agenda. Among them the most important was the planning for the celebration of the jubilee, 70 years of the establishment of our Union. Namely, back in January 1950, a group of enthusiasts philatelists coming from different towns of the country decided to launch an initiative to establish the Union. The legal procedure for recording the Union in Public Register Office was over on 19 March 1950 and the Certificate is a precious document in our archive. Seven decades of activities in the world of philately, closely connected with the associations of the countries in our region, are our rich legacy.

The roots of philately in Macedonia are recorded in different documents dating back to the period of the rule of Ottoman Empire over the Balkans. Rich traders holding foreign trade are among the very first collectors of stamps and coins. Wars on the territory of Macedonia 1912-1918, involving numerous military units from different countries, were another trigger for the philately as their postal services offered a rich legacy of postal stationery and attracted due interest in the post war period. So in 1940 the very first international philatelic exhibition was organized in Skopje.

During the Annual Assembly meeting it was discussed how to organize the jubilee in the first half of 2020, preferably in March. We took note that for the previous jubilee marking 60 years, *A History of the Union of Philatelists of Macedonia* was published, so a decision was made to organize an Open Day in our premises with appropriate media coverage, aimed to present to the general public the history of our Union. It was also decided that the focal point of the event would be the presentation of facts and documents complementing the publication and putting additional light to the philatelic life in our country, for the purpose of which our members gathered a variety of documents and data over the past ten years.

We remember with pride the names of our founders. Individual frames have been planned for short CVs and photos of our predecessors, followed by frames with exhibits by our members. The intention was to also present their certificates. As our philatelic production won awards at multiple international exhibitions so far, our plan was to put into focus some printed copies as well as collections. We are living in digital world, therefore a coin with digital display was foreseen.

Unfortunately, due to the State of Emergency in Macedonia declared because of the Covid-19 virus, we were obliged to put on hold the preparatory works. Nevertheless, the working group continued tirelessly its work from home, exchanging ideas and lay-outs for the jubilee. Just because the preparation was not put aside, we were able to accept the kind invitation of our colleagues from the Philatelic Academy of Turkey to participate in the "Centenary of Inauguration of the Turkish Grand National Assembly E- Philately Exhibition" and to submit the entry form for four members of our Union, all of them accepted. It was a privilege for us to see our frames among the contributions from many countries.

The mankind will overcome for sure this unexpected, unknown and invisible threat. We do hope that the normal life will be back for all of us. The stamp collection finds its full richness when exposed in the public eye.



Hungarian Philatelic Journal is available to all readers free of charge



The Hungarian Federation (MABÉOSZ) has asked us to inform readers of FEPA NEWS that the 'Philatelica' journal produced by the Hungarian Philatelic Institute (MAFITT) is available in English free of charge to all readers at www.mafitt.hu/philatelica.

Philatelica publishes studies on Hungarian philately. It is issued twice a year and all previous issues, which go back 30 years, are available on the MAFITT website.

Dutch PostNL legalizes Magazinekaart

Hans Kraaibeek writes:

As could have been read in the January 2019 issue of FEPA News, the Netherlands has a new type of postal stationery. It is a standard postcard size (A6) card with an imprinted stamp, meant to be for shipment of the Dutch monthly 'Filatelie' in which the Dutch federation and FEPA member KNBF publishes its official announcements.

This *Magazinekaart* was issued by the other Dutch postal operator Sandd. However, the Dutch UPD postal operator PostNL took Sandd over on 1st February 2020 and merged the two companies together as PostNL. This means that Sandd has disappeared completely from the market.

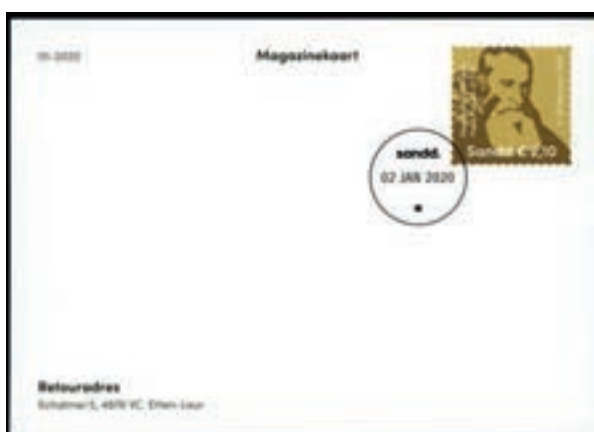
The magazine cards for 2019 were produced in December 2018 as a set for the entire year. The topic illustrated on them was the coats of arms of places where a philatelic event would take place in the following month. They were not restricted to places in the Netherlands but included other countries also. In total eleven different cards were produced.

As 2020 is a leap year, the theme this time is persons around the world who were born or died on February 29th. The first two issues were still under the Sandd operation as the February issue had already been delivered to the postal operator in January but the March issue was fully PostNL business. There have been major discussions with PostNL who were not enthusiastic about the idea of having a *Magazinekaart* as the address card for the magazine. They were concerned that it could cause problems as sorting centres and machines could not handle these cards with an imprinted stamp. As the *Magazinekaart* was part of the original contract with Sandd, however, PostNL had to find a solution and now the cards for 2020 (with the Sandd imprint) are being used together with a PostNL postmark! This will be done for the entire year 2020.



The value of the imprinted stamp was €1,55 for 2019 and is € 2,10 for 2020.

Design mistakes happen from time to time with stamps and so it happened with the first *Magazinekaart* of 2020. Designer Annemarie Zijl had made a mistake which one of the keen readers of *Filatelie* found out. The first person on the card is Alessandro Farnese, born on February 29, 1468, who became Pope Paul III (1468-1549). By mistake the wrong Alessandro Farnese (1545-1592) was pictured! He was Duke of Parma.



The wrong and right pictures of Alessandro Farnese

A new *Magazinekaart* was quickly produced with the right picture.

Portugal commemorates Tercentenary of the Royal Academy of Portuguese History

Pedro Vaz Pereira writes:

The Royal Academy of Portuguese History was founded on 8 December 1720 as a response to the calls of various scholars for King João V to become the institution's patron and protector. Emerging in a climate favourable to the arts and letters, subjects that were widely discussed and investigated in other private Academies at the time, the King relied from the beginning on the work of Manuel Caetano de Sousa, a Theatine cleric who developed the primary organisational lines of the Academy, alongside five other figures of culture and erudition who had founded or participated in several other so-called "minor" academies: the Marquis of Alegrete, Fernão Telles da Silva; the Count of Ericeira, Francisco Xavier de Meneses; the Count of Villamayor, Manuel Teles da Silva; Martinho de Mendonça de Pina e Proença; and later António Caetano de Sousa.

Following the academy's foundation, a council presided over by Manuel Caetano de Sousa was appointed, with the Count of Villamayor as his secretary. On 22 December, statutes divided in ten chapters were approved in which, besides details regarding organisation and the academy's fifty members, it was determined that "The Academy will have its own Seal and Purpose... the Seal will consist of the Royal Coat of Arms, under which will appear the figure of Time imprisoned in chains, surrounded by the inscription: *Sigillum Regiae Academiae Historiae Lusitanae*. The Purpose will be depicted by the goddess Veritas, as the ancient Romans had represented her, with the phrase: *Restituet omnia*."

The academy's first objective was the elaboration of the *Historia Ecclesiastica destes Reynos, e depois tudo o que pertencer a toda a Historia delles, e de suas conquistas* (*Ecclesiastical History of these Kingdoms and all that pertains to their history and conquests*). This work was to obey a certain method, without which it could not be accepted as scientific, thus positioning the Royal Academy at the origins of scientific history. For this purpose, the priority of "gathering manuscripts" and "summoning writers" was defined, and Royal protection was decisive, "because without it, Archives are not opened, nor is what can be found in them discovered, but buried...". Throughout the sessions of the Royal Academy, which featured the contributions of the above-named scholars, questioning, doubt and debate flourished. While none of the Histories was ever definitively completed, there can be no doubt about the substantial endeavour of those pioneering scholars, reflected in letters, catalogues, notebooks and

"papers" handed over for analysis to the censors. Most of these documents were printed at the time, while others awaited further treatment and were used when Father Luis Cardoso organised the so-called "Parish Memoirs". The Institution also grew with the help of royal protection in the



The Tercentenary of the Academy has been recognised by the Portuguese Post Office with the issue of this commemorative sheet containing two stamps (0.53 euro, 1 euro) and a miniature sheet (2 euros).

The Portuguese Federation of Philately has also chosen to place this miniature sheet on the front cover of the June 2020 edition of its journal *Filatelía LUSITANIA*, emphasising the close links between historical research and postal history.

form of rents, favours and facilities, such as free entry into the Archives and the responsibility given to the Academy for the Defence and Conservation of Ancient Monuments.

The activity of the Royal Academy was maintained with great dynamism for over half a century. Founded to promote the writing of History, the Royal Academy would also play a fundamental role as a publisher, with the privilege of having its own dedicated censors. Its last public act took place in 1777 when, as was traditional, an official address was made of behalf of the Academy to Queen Maria on her birthday. While falling into a period of decline from then on, the Academy was not definitively extinguished. After a period of interruption lasting one hundred and fifty years, the Royal Academy of Portuguese History was reborn on 19 May 1936.

Serbian Federation holds seminar on the Prince Milan Issue of 1869

Vladimir Milić, Editor of the Philatelist Magazine of the Union of Philatelists of Serbia, writes:

2019 was the 150th anniversary of the Serbian Portrait of Prince Milan Obrenovic issue: To mark the occasion the Union of Philatelists of Serbia, in cooperation with the Belgrade PTT museum, held a special event on December 11th, 2019 on the subject of 'History of Philately in Serbia – Prince Milan Issue'.



The Union of Philatelists of Serbia's Vice-President, Mr. Predrag Antić, one of the most important Serbian philatelic collectors, presented a wide range of material on this aspect of Serbian philately.



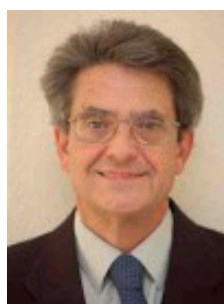
Predrag Antić Seminar (Photo: Public Enterprise "Serbian Post" / I.D)

Great interest in this event was shown by the audience, mostly made up of philatelists.



Royal Hispanic Academy of Philately and Postal History New Academicians elected

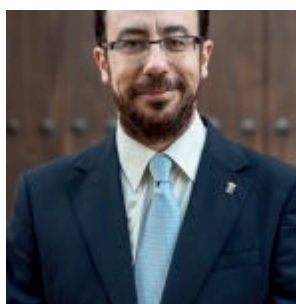
Four new Academicians were elected to the Royal Hispanic Academy of Philately and Postal History at a meeting of the Academy's General Assembly in February 2020. The new Academicians are:



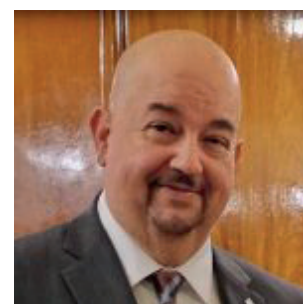
Raimundo Almeda



Luis Frazao RDP



Manuel Alvarez Casado



Jaime Benavides-Villarreal

We send them our warmest congratulations and best wishes.

Turkish Federation organises 'virtual' exhibition to mark the Centenary of the Turkish Grand National Assembly



Ziya Ağaoğulları, President of the Turkish Federation, writes:

In these difficult days of COVID-19 we successfully organised an electronic philately exhibition on Facebook for the occasion of the Centenary of the Inauguration of the Turkish Grand National Assembly on 23rd April 2020. This e-exhibition did not have an official characteristic but was held to have fun, use the time, and raise morale.

We authorized Turkish Philately Academia for this virtual exhibition. Our Board Member & Academy Director Mehmet Akan coordinated the event while Muzaffer Arda (Board Member), Murat İbrahim Çelebi (President of the Ankara Philately Society) and Serdar Yazgan (Member of the Turkish Philately Academy) functioned as the organization committee. As far as I know, this unique organization in which 98 exhibitors participated is the first philatelic e-exhibition arranged worldwide. It did not have an official characteristic but, as stated above, aimed to increase our good taste, keep us engaged with our hobby and deepen international links among philatelists.

The exhibits were not judged formally by an official jury. Instead, judging was based on votes of appreciation by the participants. Each participant was allowed to vote for eight exhibits that he/she liked, other than his/her own. We classified and listed all the collections into 4 main groups and a total of 51 philatelists voted.

The results were:

The Voting Results (A total of 51 philatelist voted).

Group 1

1. Europe Post - Turkish Albania and its Relations with Foreign powers 1897-1910 Postal History/POSTA TARİHİ
2. Erce Uluu - T.C. Posta Tarihleri 1829-55 Postal History/POSTA TARİHİ

Group 2

1. C. Şişirli Mehmet - 1908-1918 Piyade 18, 6n, Cemal Cank Sığıl Sıdım OPEN-CLASS/ Açık Sınıf
2. " - Kemal Atatürk - Peace in Turkey during Great War OPEN-CLASS/ Açık Sınıf
3. C. Şişirli Mehmet - A Welcoming Philatelist İsmail Hakkı Taştık Öküz OPEN CLASS / Açık Sınıf
4. C. Şişirli Mehmet - Cumhuriyetin Gökününe Hınçlar I Etiler OPEN-CLASS/ Açık Sınıf
* * * * *
* * * * *
* * * * *

Group 3

1. Kuyulu Mehmet - TBMM Nispeti 1920-23 Traditional / Geleneksel
2. Serdar Yazgan - From Ankara to Turkish Republic 1920-26 Traditional / Geleneksel

Group 4

1. Kuyulu Mehmet - Türkiye Postalarında İktidatın etkileri YOUTH CLASS / Gençlik
2. İsmail Arda - Kuyulu (Makamunakıllar) YOUTH CLASS / Gençlik

All philatelists are invited to take a tour at: [23 Nisan 1920-2020 T.B.M.M. 100. YILDÖNÜMÜ e-pul sergisi](#)

This unique organization has been a significant experience for us. Based on it our friends are currently working on the technical possibilities of organizing a formal e-exhibition in months to come.

We planned to organize an exhibition in Ankara to celebrate one of the most important days in Turkish history but had to cancel it due to COVID-19. Nevertheless, we accomplished it as an e-exhibition and, as the President of the Turkish Federation of Philatelic Associations, I am very grateful for the contributions provided for the organization of this exceptional event.

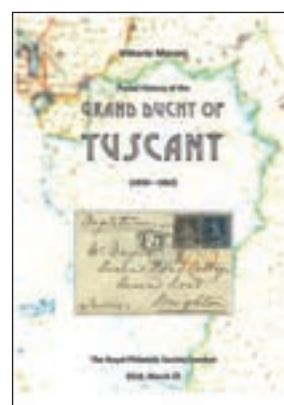
Royal Philatelic Society London: What did we do in the Coronavirus pandemic?

Chris King writes:

As uncertainty on how long the Coronavirus lockdown in the United Kingdom would last became a certainty that it would be for a very long time, RPSL's thoughts turned to serving its members during this difficult period.

The last meeting of our programme at Abchurch Lane took place on 5th March 2020 when Bob Galland gave a presentation and a display entitled '*Evolution of the British Franking System*'. This meant that the whole of the remaining Presidential programme from 19th March would be lost unless we came up with an alternative.

The first response was to create an easier way for both members and non-members to access the website. The Quicklinks page was open for use at <https://www.rpsl.org.uk/Catalogue/Quick-Links> from 9th April, and is being regularly updated. Some material is reserved for members, but almost everything before April 2018 is available at no charge to all philatelists, and to the public at large. Try visiting <https://www.rpsl.org.uk/Quick-Links/Meeting-Handouts> for a cornucopia of free information covering the whole world of philately. Here are some examples:



Markand Dave, a Royal Representative in India, and his colleagues presented a series of six online seminars, the 'philaminars', over six days from 24-30 April 2020. They built on the base established in 2019 when they trialed Zoom meetings to avoid travelling the long distances sometimes necessary to attend philatelic meetings in the sub-continent.

Using experience gained in attending and supporting these online events, and others, the Society launched its first member-only service beginning on 23 April 2020, with RPSL Past President Frank Walton presenting his Wilding collection, covering the design, production and usages of the classic small format Queen Elizabeth II definitive issues in use in the United Kingdom between 1952 and 1967. Others have followed and we have now planned a member programme with events every two weeks until the end of August. Interest has been high, and audiences have exceeded 150 at a single meeting.

We took another initiative on 28 May, when we introduced 'professional' seminars, open to all. The first was again led by Frank Walton on the theme of, '*A guide to writing articles for The London Philatelist*'. This season of collections continues until 6 August, and all can be found at <https://www.rpsl.org.uk/News-Events-Meetings/Online-Presentations>. We also list the seminars and presentations organised by the Bund Deutscher Philatelisten, the American Philatelic Society, and the Collectors Club New York. We are happy to list any online presentations by bona-fide clubs and societies through our webmaster at webmaster@rpsl.org.uk.

You might ask why we are making material and webspace available to others? One thing that we have learned from the Coronavirus pandemic is that we are all in this together. Philately is something that unites us, and we should be proud to share it, and to help each other, even after we can meet again in person.

Thanks are due to our many displayers, and to our colleagues Frank Walton RDP FRPSL, Nicola Davies (Our Head of Collections), Mark Bailey FRPSL, Steve Jarvis FRPSL, and Mike Hoffman for their time, effort and expertise in making these programmes and services available both to members of the Royal, and to the wider world of Philately. Please visit www.rpsl.org.uk, and see for yourself.

Chris King RDP Hon. FRPSL

Chairman

Collections Committee, Royal Philatelic Society London, June 2020

Collecting gets a kick

Matt Hill is editor of Stamp Collector magazine, a leading philatelic journal in the UK, and the allaboutstamps.co.uk website. Here he writes about the impact the current crisis on the philatelic trade:

The internet has saved stamp collecting, the lockdown has given the hobby a boost, and for forward-thinking stamp traders it's business as usual.

The Covid-19 pandemic has left the world reeling, with bad headlines and frightening statistics seemingly around every corner and the world suddenly feeling like a very large place. As we're continually reminded, these times are unprecedented, difficult, tragic and challenging for us all, and, of course, the collecting world is also rocking. Stamp events have been cancelled, collectors are confined to their homes and, like many other industries, there has been an understandable sense of uncertainty. But take a closer look and it's clear that rumours of the stamp trade's death are greatly exaggerated.

For those traders willing to adapt, there are plenty of reasons to be optimistic. It may involve changing working patterns and, at least in the short term, losing the social aspect of our wonderful hobby which both buyers and sellers enjoy, but those traders determined to keep their glasses half full are not only negotiating the obstacles this horrid virus has presented, they're leaping over them. This positive outlook is thanks to two factors: the advance of technology and the slower pace of life we've suddenly rediscovered.

Online trading

For many, the internet has long been the first port of call when it comes to buying and selling. Dealers around the world have gradually switched to the online world over the past two decades, some more readily than others, with stamp fairs and the call of regular customers becoming a way to supplement income rather than drive it.

The dealers that have long since embraced the online arena found themselves with a distinct advantage when the world went into lockdown. Their customers could still see their stock, at any hour of the day from any location in the world. Auctioneers that have long held online auctions (either using their own technology or a third party) carried on with confidence, bidders watching on and taking part from around the world.

It's no surprise that visits to websites and online stamp stores increased as the virus spread around the globe; the allaboutstamps.co.uk website, for example, has seen an 90% jump in visitor numbers compared to 'BC' (before coronavirus) figures. The internet brings its own set of challenges, but it's no exaggeration to say it has saved stamp collecting.

Of course, collectors and dealers see the hobby as being a social activity too, and there's no denying this element of collecting has temporarily been lost. But even the concept of stamp exhibitions and fairs can be moved online. We are currently organising a Summer of Stamps Virtual Festival to take place on the allaboutstamps.co.uk website from 9 July, offering a marketplace, videos, competitions and more. The future of philately is exciting!



The Summer of Stamps Virtual Festival runs from 9 July 2020.

For more details contact Matt at: matthewh@warnersgroup.co.uk

More time to collect

The solitary nature of the hobby has also played out well during the crisis. With millions of us in lockdown, collectors are finding more time to focus on their hobby, organise albums and write up collections. Those who put their stamp albums aside years ago have time to dust them off and pick up where they left off, and millennials are discovering the appeal of a pastime that can be done at your own pace, bringing delicate relics from the paper-age into their otherwise busy, digital lives. Indeed, one could argue that stamp collecting provides the perfect mix of tradition and technology, and hundreds of traders are making the most of this unique combination.

The leap from face-to-face sales to online retail hasn't been as easy for everyone, and no doubt many of the offline traders have suffered more in this historic year. Stamp fairs will return, customers will come back, but will that be enough without an online presence?

Just as in many other industries, the Covid19 pandemic has given the stamp world a huge push towards online activity. It was always coming, now it's here a little sooner than we expected, and it's making the world of stamps a smaller, friendlier place all over again.

Luis Alemany Andarte (1940-2020)

We were saddened to hear from the Spanish Federation that Luis Alemany passed away on 9th April, having suffered from Alzheimer's Disease for some time. One of Spain's great philatelists, he was interested in all topics related to Spain from an early age. More recently he had branched out to add other interests to his repertoire, including Argentina, Nicaragua, Brazil, Finland and the Netherlands.

He was a very active exhibitor at all levels and received more than 120 Large Gold Medals, 40 of them in FIP competitions. He was awarded the Grand Prix d'Honneur twice as well as five other Grands Prix. He had filled numerous positions in philatelic organisations and was an international juror. He also lectured frequently and published articles, books and catalogues on a variety of subjects.

By profession he was an architect who made major contributions to the development of Madrid from the 1970s including the expansion of Real Madrid's stadium for the 1982 World Cup. He was also a lover of opera and classical music. We send our deepest sympathy to his family.

Rest in Peace.



Gunnar Dahlvig (1929-2020)

Giancarlo Morolli writes:



On 2 June I got a mail from Anders Dahlvig saying that Gunnar passed away the day before due to pancreatic cancer and asking to spread this sad news among our common philatelic friends. I wrote a quick obituary for the FEPA website, highlighting the long cooperation we shared in the FIP Thematic Commission, of which he was Vice President from 1992 to 2000, and then I bumped into a file with his philatelic curriculum (<https://sff.nu/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/CV-Dahlvig-Gunnar140102.pdf>). I was familiar with his thematic exhibits, with his pioneer work, first in creating the Open Class and then in establishing ground rules for its evaluation, I knew that he had served as President of the Swedish Thematic Association and the Swedish Philatelic Federation. I had even contributed to his collection of philatelic ties... So I discovered that he was also a traditional (Bosnia Herzegovina) and a Picture Postcards exhibitor. He signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 2000 and in 2014 he was granted the FEPA Medal for outstanding

service to Philately. After meeting me in Lugano he went to his computer and compiled a long document with the best photos of our 35 years long friendship.

My message announcing his death got a lot of reactions. FIP President Bernard Beston wrote: "Gunnar was highly regarded in Australia, both for his knowledge and his consistent willingness to assist others in their thematic pursuits." Several replies quoted long talks with him at exhibitions over a thirty years' time span - from Stockholmia 1986 to Finlandia 2017. Gunnar is remembered as "a gentleman, a great human being, a man of great wisdom and sensibility always willing to help, with a wide knowledge, talking about all aspects of life with always a smile... a visionary of various fields of philately, a great director, an excellent juror... trying to improve the thematic class with a very pragmatic approach... his merits for thematic philately will long remain in the memory of all collectors".

Gunnar Dahlvig was all of that but, foremost, he was a fantastic friend. We will deeply miss him!

Requiescat In Pace – Rest in Peace

A Voyage through the FEPA Federation websites

Giancarlo Morolli has been surfing the net.

“Navigare necesse est” To navigate is necessary. Coined by the Roman politician and general Gnaeus Pompeius, this dictum was assumed by the Hanseatic League as its motto, later relaunched by the Italian poet Gabriele D’Annunzio, and has again come to the forefront thanks to the web. The Coronavirus lockdown has shown how digital navigation has become vital nowadays, even for our hobby. Philatelists have continued socializing, studying, searching, reading, buying and selling. Associations like FEPA have been able to conduct business thanks to meetings connecting people in London, Helsinki, Milan, Ljubljana, Athens, Nicosia and Bruck/Leitha. Societies have set up appealing programmes of video conferences with attendance from all over the world. Magazines that could not be printed have been made available on the websites of their publishers. The forced changes in the philatelic calendar all over the world have been made known immediately to all interested parties.

All this gave me the idea to take a digital walk through the websites of FEPA members and see how they are using the potential to address the challenges we face. I did not use the criteria for judging digital philatelic literature or the technical tools for checking design and functionality. I also paid no attention to a website’s behaviour with different browsers or on mobile devices, or to how they relate to social networks. My assessment covered websites in a variety of languages but considering that I manage five and “sniff” a couple of others, I could resolve most questions with the help of the translators. I have also visited each website more than once to assess how frequently they are updated.

My preliminary findings are:

- 15 national associations out of 44 do not have a website.
- 1 federation had an address pointing to a site that could not be reached. The federation confirmed to me that some maintenance was going on.
- 1 website address pointed to an Indonesian gambling website... after some research the correct address was found but the website still seems to lack some functionalities as the menu has incorrect links.
- 1 federation website gave a partial result. A small correction to its URL (after checking the FIP website for the same federation) brought up the right home page.
- 1 federation’s website was reached correctly on the first visit, but two weeks later the system returned the message “site not available”.

Consequently, my first recommendation to Federations is that, if there is a change to your website’s provider, this information should be notified widely, and especially to your linked associations. Periodically, links to and from a Federation’s own website should also be checked, just in case.

As FEPA VP it is disappointing to report that few members proudly display the FEPA logo on their websites. The Board is strongly committed to raising awareness among all philatelists in Europe of the fact that, through their associations, they are part of the FEPA family. Contact with other philatelists is after all one of the main benefits of philately. The Federation websites should contribute to this by emphasising their FEPA membership.

My questions were: What is this website for? Who are its contents aimed at? Are visitors receiving what the owner is offering or there is a misalignment between offer and needs - the layout of a website must match the owner’s strategy and, while a user-friendly, attractive layout is a prerequisite, it is not sufficient to give the visitor a good sense of what is available. To answer these questions we must go back to the basic concept of website design, the relationship between the “business” goals of the owner and of its “visitor set”. The “business” goals of a philatelic federation can be summarized in four words: coordinate, support, promote, represent. Until now the websites have focused on representation and coordination. The content has been concentrated on the Federation’s organisation and members, statutes, regulations governing exhibitions and schedule of events. Apart from the philatelic calendar all these subjects are static, changing infrequently. When it comes to support, the websites offer some of the following:

1. News about new issues of the relevant country (and sometimes of nearby ones) and, often, of special postmarks used in temporary post offices.
2. Examples of exhibits in various classes, occasionally with a comment from an expert highlighting the merits of the exhibit or pointing out areas for improvement.

3. The latest issue of the Federation's magazine (sometimes downloadable). Some federations make available past issues, sometimes over many years, which can be browsed through or even downloaded.
4. Sometimes, exchange and sales offers reserved to members.
5. Some basic information about philately (educational material).
6. Catalogue of the stamps and/or the special postmarks of the country.
7. Other basic publications (e.g. dictionary of philatelic terms).
8. A forum / discussion area where everybody (or members only) can post news, comments and requests. This is a very demanding activity, as it has to be moderated and managed so that the discussion stays focused, sound and respectful.

Sometimes features are reserved to members, who may have to enter a private area protected by a password.

The websites do not openly promote philately, nor do they highlight its appeal and essence, because they are aimed at members including local and specialised philatelic societies and, in some case, individual philatelists. Promotion concerns philatelic activities and initiatives. Sometimes there is a mild invitation to join. The page layout is traditional, filling the screen, with a long menu either on top or left (and hidden submenus). Sometimes flashing signs on the menu highlight recent updates. Over time the menus on most websites have become overloaded when they should be lean and easy to look at. "New" websites have a running homepage, with the most recent news on top. To display more news, the normal approach is only to show the first lines on each post and offer a "more" button to see the full text. A few federations have experimented with multilingual pages but the additional costs impose limits and not all pages are translated. As most visitors are from within their own country and the few foreign visitors normally have knowledge of its language, this does not appear to be a major problem.

What I have found very seldom, or not well covered is:

1. A solid youth programme. The content is not aimed young visitors.
2. Philatelic literature. New publications in the country or concerning the philately of the country should be duly presented and a specific, well-visible feature maintained in a proactive way.
3. Emphasis on fight against fakes, forgeries, and the like. The web could offer a lot, e.g. by creating a reference library of the most common forgeries of the country and building awareness of the risks.
4. Educational programmes for exhibitors, e.g. short (You Tube-like) videos to address specific points of general interest.
5. A "Marketing" drive to promote philately to the wider world by engaging the interest of visitors to the website, e.g. visitors should be invited to join their nearest society, found by entering their postal code! This has to be quick. If visitors do not find anything interesting within 3 seconds, they leave.

A major area for improvement concerns the easier exploitation of what is already in the site. For instance, while some websites store the past issues of the federation's magazines, there is no search tool available. At best there is a list of contents by year leaving the researcher to hunt through issue after issue. The same applies to exhibits. The Italian Federation has a special portal that maintains all the data of each national exhibition, including the pdf files of all exhibits shown unless the exhibitors decided to withdraw his/her file. But there is no list, so one has to search through each exhibition hoping to find something of interest.

I cannot close this fast walk without going back to the remark about promotion of philately as such on the web. There is a void that should be filled, but by whom? The collectors' organisations, postal administrations, dealers' societies all look to their own customers without planting seeds for the future. While browsing through You Tube, I also did not find much to address this need.

Three skills are needed to design a Federation website: philatelic, graphic/communication and technical. To achieve this complex combination becomes more difficult because for cost reasons Federations generally have to use volunteers who often cannot commit long term or are unavailable for routine maintenance. However, we need to take into account how relevant the website will be in future. The Coronavirus pause provides a good opportunity to think how to develop future plans using the technology that almost all philatelists have to hand or on their desks. There are also "modern" philatelists who are working mainly through social networks, online catalogues, googled information, virtual exhibitions, video chats and conferences. It would be advisable for each Federation to develop a strategy for the next five years and ensure that their websites evolve to help achieve it. This should be done with a more extensive use of social networks to capture the attention of more collectors and keep them linked through messages and newsletters. From the information I have started collecting, the American Philatelic Society has already started along this path. We should watch closely.



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From Spain



Review of the FEPA Statutes

Bill Hedley writes:

The FEPA Statutes were adopted at a Constituent meeting of FEPA in Sofia in 1989, and the first Congress was held the following year. Since then there have been occasional amendments to the Statutes. The current Statutes were approved by Congress in Amsterdam in 2002 and further amended in Madrid in 2013. However, few would deny that considerable changes have taken place in the meantime. New technology has advanced on a scale and at a speed that could not have been foreseen in 1989 and its impact on philately has been felt at every level. If anything, this process seems likely to accelerate further in the years to come. It is timely, therefore, to undertake a review of our Statutes to make sure that they are fit for purpose in the 2020s. While this will entail updating of the wording of the Statutes, it could also bring a wider discussion on how FEPA can make the most effective contribution to European philately and whether its present objectives could be updated.

The Board is planning to start a review of the Statutes in the coming months. In preparation for that we are including a section in this edition of FEPA News designed to provide background to the review. Included are:

- The existing Statutes.
- Personal thoughts by Giancarlo Morolli on aspects of the Statutes where change may be needed.
- An article by José Ramón Moreno on Alan Huggins and the foundation of FEPA.

We will shortly be inviting our Member Federations to contribute their thoughts on this question, and we hope that these papers will provide some useful background to the discussion.



Current FEPA Statutes

Chapter I – Introduction

1. The name of the Federation is „Federation of European Philatelic Associations“ abbreviated to „FEPA“. It was founded in 1989.
2. FEPA shall represent philatelists of countries as defined under 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3 through their respective National Philatelic Federations, Associations or Unions
3. FEPA is an Associate Member of FIP and FEPA shall work in accordance with Statutes and all Regulations of FIP. They shall be fully respected.
4. The administration of FEPA shall have no permanent headquarters. The headquarters will normally be located in the country of the President of FEPA.
5. FEPA will operate as a non-profit-making organization.
6. Deleted

Chapter II – Objectives

FEPA has the following objectives:

- 7.1 to coordinate the philatelic activities of the member Federations in Europe
- 7.2 to represent a European viewpoint and European interests to other philatelic organizations especially FIP, Continental Federations, Postal and Dealers Organizations.
- 7.3 to give support to National Member Federations in all philatelic or administrative aspects
- 7.4 to promote and stimulate the interest in stamp collecting among young people
- 7.5 to promote, to advise and / or organize philatelic events including competitive and non-competitive exhibitions in Europe
- 7.6 to encourage the publication and distribution of philatelic literature
- 7.7 to issue an official FEPA magazine under the title „FEPA NEWS“
- 7.8 to cooperate in all aspects with FIP to support the FIP aims and activities.

Chapter III – Definition of Membership

- 8.1 National Federations, Associations or Unions of European countries can be FEPA members.
- 8.2 According to special agreement with FEPA and FIP the Israel Philatelic Federation is a FEPA Member.
- 8.3 FEPA Membership will also be accepted for national Federations of countries in North Africa as long as no African Continental Federation has been founded.

Admission

- 9.1 Applications for FEPA membership must be submitted in writing to the FEPA Board by including the following documents:
 - a) The statutes of the National Federation
 - b) List of members of the National Board
 - c) List of member societies and their total membership
 - d) A Written declaration to accept and fulfill the FEPA Statutes.

9.2 FEPA may give recognition and can accept only one member organization from each country.

9.3 Any application for FEPA membership must be presented to the FEPA Board latest 3 months prior to the date of FEPA Congress.

9.4 The acceptance of membership shall be approved by the FEPA Congress.

Membership Fee

10.1 All members shall pay an annual membership fee. The amount of which shall be determined by the FEPA Congress.

10.2 The membership fee must be paid until 30th April of the calendar year.

10.3 Any member failing to pay the annual fee will have no voting right in the subsequent Congress.

10.4 Any member failing to pay the fee for a period of two calendar years shall have its membership suspended. If the failure of payment is longer than two years, the membership will be cancelled.

10.5 The resignation of a member shall be accepted only if all outstanding dues have been paid to FEPA.

Chapter IV – Organization and Administration

The structure of FEPA is:

11.1 Congress

11.2 The Board of Directors, abbreviated called FEPA Board

11.3 The Members

Congress

12.1 The Congress is the supreme body of FEPA and consist of all members as defined in Chapter III, 8.1 to 8.4.

12.2 The Congress as meeting of the FEPA members has the competence to decide and approve all matters as specified in the FEPA Statutes.

12.3 Congress shall meet every year at the time and place determined by the preceding Congress.

12.4 The FEPA President shall convene the Congress on behalf of the FEPA Board. The invitation shall be given in writing not less than four months before the date of the Congress.

12.5 The invitation shall include:

12.5.1 The agenda

12.5.2 The report of the FEPA Board

12.5.3 The Treasurer's report with accounts and financial statements

12.5.4 The Treasurer's proposal for the budget of the forthcoming year

12.5.5 The Auditor's Report

12.5.6 Motions of the Members and of the Board

12.5.7 Elections of Board Members – if required

12.6 Representation at Congress

12.6.1 Each FEPA member has one vote.

12.6.2 Members shall appoint in writing one delegate as official representative. Two observers without voting right may be nominated in addition.

12.6.3 The names and addresses of the delegate and of any observer shall be sent to the FEPA Secretary in writing before the Congress.

12.6.4 Members can be represented at Congress by proxy. It must be in favor of another Member Federation.

12.6.5 A Member may represent by proxy only one other Member Federation.

Motions

13.1 Motions may be submitted by the FEPA Board and by Member Federations.

13.2 Motions shall be submitted to the FEPA Board in writing at least 3 months before the Congress. Such motions have to be circulated to all members.

13.3 Motions may be submitted by the FEPA Board up to two months before the Congress.

Such motions have to be circulated to all members.

13.4 Motions presented during the conduct of Congress can be accepted for discussion, if the majority of members present and the FEPA Board agree.

Elections

14.1 The Congress shall elect by secret or open ballot as decided by the majority of the members present:

a) The President

b) The Vice-President

c) The Secretary General

d) The Treasurer

e) Three Directors

The Board is divided in two election pools.

Pool 1: President, Secretary General and one Director.

Pool 2: Vice President, Treasurer and one Director.

Each second year one pool is elected.

14.2 The Congress shall elect the Auditor who shall be a candidate of a member federation not represented in the Board.

14.3 The candidate for each post obtaining the highest number of votes will be declared elected. In case of a tie, voting will be repeated between the tied candidates only.

Nominations

- 15.1 Nominations of candidates by a member federation must be submitted in writing to arrive at the Board not less than three months prior to the next Congress. If vacancies exist at this deadline, nominations can be accepted in sequence until vacancies are filled up.
- 15.2 The Board shall send a list of candidates to all member federations before the Congress.

Voting

- 16.1 A quorum for decisions to be taken by the Congress shall be the presence in person or by proxy of more than half of the members at the first roll call.
- 16.2 If a quorum is not present, the FEPA Congress will be called upon once more by the Board to meet 30 minutes after the first roll-call. This repeatedly called Congress has the quorum with any number of members present.
- 16.3 In case of a tie, voting will be repeated.
- 16.4 If any member requests a secret vote, then a secret ballot must be held on the matter or motion in question.
- 16.5 Written votes of Members not present or represented by proxy are not admitted in the meeting of the Congress.

FEPA Board

- 17.1 The FEPA Board is the directing body of FEPA
- 17.2 The Board has the following members:
- a) President
 - b) Vice-President
 - c) Secretary General
 - d) Treasurer
 - e) 3 Directors
- 17.3 All members of the Board shall be elected for a term of four years.
- 17.4 The President shall serve no more than two full terms. All other members may serve up to three full terms.
- 17.5 The President shall distribute the responsibilities of the FEPA tasks to the members of the Board at the first meeting after election.
- 17.6 A meeting of the FEPA Board shall be called by the President or at the request of four members of the Board.
- 17.7 The quorum for meetings of the Board shall be four members.
- 17.8 The administrative duties shall be fulfilled by the Secretary General.
- 17.9 The secretariat shall be in the country of the Secretary General. It will operate on a voluntary basis at no cost of FEPA.
- 17.10 No member of the FEPA Board may at the same time hold office in the FIP Board or as Chairman of any FIP Commission.
- 17.11 In the absence of the President, the Vice President or the Treasurer shall act as Chairman.
- 17.12 The Board shall have the authority to issue directives, to approve and reform regulations, appoint committees and special delegates as it may be required.
- 17.13 In case of a vacancy in the FEPA Board the FEPA Board may appoint a suitable person to fill the vacancy until election at the next Congress.

Chapter V – Financial Management

- 18.1 The Board shall manage the finances of FEPA. The member of the Board responsible for this task is the Treasurer.
- 18.2 The Treasurer shall keep all funds and collect and disburse all monies on behalf of FEPA. He shall keep the accounts of all financial transactions.
- 18.3 The Treasurer shall make up the accounts up to the 31st December in every year and present them to the Board until 31st March of the following year. The accounts approved by the Board will be presented to Congress for approval.
- 18.4 The accounts shall be duly audited by the Auditor before the Congress.
- 18.5 Any financial commitments of FEPA shall be made only after confirmation of the Treasurer.
- 18.6 Any expenditure in excess to any limits approved by the Board shall require the signature of the President in addition to that of the Treasurer.

Chapter VI – Relations to FIP

- 19.1 The Board shall maintain very close relations with the FEPA representatives in the FIP Board and in the FIP Commission Bureau. The Board shall ask for reports of their activity.

Chapter VII – Exhibitions

- 20.1 Exhibitions under FEPA Patronage, Support or Recognition must be organized according the FEPA Regulations for Exhibitions (FREGEX).
- 20.2 The FREGEX have to be formulated and proposed by the Board and shall be approved by the Congress.
- 20.3 For each exhibition or philatelic event recognized by FEPA the Board will appoint a Consultant who is the contact person between the Board and the organizers.
- 20.4 The tasks of the Consultant are described in the FREGEX. For events not described in the FREGEX the Board will specify the task after consideration of the individual case.

- 20.5 For the nomination of FEPA Jurors and Jury Apprentices the Board shall act in accordance with the FREGEX.
- 20.6 Expert Group
- 20.6.1 FEPA has the responsibility to establish an expert group. The Chairman of this group shall be appointed by the FEPA Board.
- 20.6.2 The Chairman will maintain a list of experts acting in FEPA member countries, and will also propose the composition of the expert teams to operate at FEPA Exhibitions from this list.
- 20.6.3 The term of the Chairman will be the same as for the members of the FEPA Board.
- 20.6.4 The Chairman is responsible for keeping an updated file of all Expert Group requests for certificates etc. – in exhibits from FEPA Member Federations. FEPA is the owner of this file.
- 20.6.5 The Chairman reports to the FEPA President and may be invited to the Board meetings.

Chapter VIII – Honours, Medals and Awards

- 21.1 FEPA may award the following:
- a) Honorary Presidency
 - b) FEPA Medal
 - c) Certificate of Appreciation
- 21.2 FEPA Presidents who have long and outstanding service in the FEPA Board may be granted the distinction of Honorary President.
- 21.3 Honorary Presidents shall be elected by the Congress on proposal of the Board or of a Member Federation and may only act in an advisory capacity.
- 21.4 FEPA Medal shall be awarded by the Board to candidates who have given exceptional service to organized philately or have demonstrated exceptional philatelic study and research or to persons who have given a significant service or support to philately.
- 21.5 FEPA Certificate of Appreciation may be presented to philatelic associations or clubs for outstanding activities for the promotion of philately on regional or local level.

Chapter IX – General Provisions

Legal representative

- 22.1 The President or the Board's nominee shall represent FEPA at all times and shall be its legal representative.
- 22.2 The President alone or the Treasurer together with the Vice President are authorized to sign on behalf of FEPA in a legally binding manner.
- 22.3 The Board may also authorize other persons to sign on behalf of FEPA.

Statutes

- 23.1 All member federations have the duty to respect and fulfill the FEPA Statutes and any FEPA Regulations.
- 23.2 All changes of the Statutes require a quorum of not less than three quarters of the Member Federations present to vote in a Congress, in which the matter „Amendments of Statutes“ is on the agenda.
- 23.3 Member Federations may request changes or amendments of the Statutes every second year only. Such requests shall be sent to the Board latest 3 months before the date of the Congress.
- 23.4 The Board may recommend changes to correct anomalies at any time. This is not subject to the two year limitation.

Dissolution of FEPA

- 24.1 At the request of the FEPA Board or upon request of more than two thirds of the Member Federations, the FEPA can be dissolved by Congress.
- 24.2 Such Congress called for the dissolution of FEPA will require a presence of three quarters of all FEPA Members by person or by proxy. For the motion to be carried, it requires a quorum of three quarters of the votes present.
- 24.3 In case of the dissolution of FEPA any assets will be used as decided by FEPA Congress.

Language

- 25.1 The official FEPA language is English.
- 25.2 The proceedings of the Congress will be conducted in English. On request and upon decision of the majority of the delegates translations will be presented in French or German or Spanish.
- 25.3 In the event of different interpretations the English text will prevail.

Official Year

- 26.1 The official year shall run from 1st January to 31st December.

Legal Jurisdiction

- 27.1 Any legal disputes will be determined under Swiss law.

Interpretation and Matters not covered

- 28.1 Matters not covered by these Statutes will be determined by the FEPA Board and must be ratified by the next following Congress.
- 28.2 In the event of any discrepancies of interpretation of these Statutes the FEPA Board will decide and act according to 28.1.

Approval of Statutes

- 29.1 These Statutes were approved at the FEPA Congress on 1st September 2002 at Amsterdam and changed at the FEPA Congress on 5th October 2013 in Madrid. The changes take effect immediately after this Congress. All previous Statutes are invalidated the same day.

Why review the FEPA Statutes?

To stimulate discussion on this important subject, Giancarlo Morolli sets down his thoughts

Statutes are the set of rules governing an organisation. They are set up at its foundation and then are reviewed over time, as any entity wishing to remain alive and vibrant needs to keep up with the constant evolution of processes, especially concerning communications. And communications are vital for organisations spread over large territories. The recent assault of Covid-19 has forced new behaviours, individually and socially, on all of us. Smart working and video conferencing have become a very common experience.

Furthermore, there is a basic need to review the statutes regularly. Consistency of provisions is not obtained at the first attempt.

A third reason is that, as in any new enterprise, we are learning by doing. Hence, some provisions have become redundant over time, whereas others need adjustment or expansion.

The following remarks are personal notes, to be received as an invitation to look in depth at the FEPA statutes and prepare contributions when a formal initiative is announced by the Board.

For discussion's sake I propose some details hereafter, but at the same time I am wary of doing so as I am not a lawyer and some statements require a precise definition from a legal standpoint. In my opinion, we should have clear statements, but their level of detail should be concise to the point that they do not exclude new possibilities for the future without having to amend the statutes accordingly.

Chapter I

- The text is generic and might be not sufficient for legal purposes. For instance, more stringent laws about money laundering have been introduced. As a matter of fact, it should be specified that FEPA (not its administration) shall have no permanent headquarters and its legal seat will normally be located in the country of the President of FEPA.
- "Art 6. Deleted", is just a demonstration of the minor adjustment required (also in the overall numbering approach that nowadays seems quite odd) to tidy up the text.

Chapter II

Are the FEPA objectives clear enough? We should probably consider to specify the main lines of action so that we can be on the safe legal side when dealing with expenses or revenues.

For example, additional objectives could be:

- to promote, to advise and to support philatelic events including competitive and non-competitive exhibitions in Europe.
- to encourage the publication and distribution of philatelic literature, in particular by issuing an official FEPA magazine.

That relates to the revenue for granting recognition or for ads in the FEPA publications and for the costs of FEPA News.

Furthermore, the word "events" includes not only exhibitions but also seminars, congresses and other initiatives recognized by FEPA.

Chapter III

The current definition has proven satisfactory until Lebanon's request for admission was received. The matter has been analysed with FIAP and a proposed amendment has been circulated for discussion. A more generic definition concerning Asian countries close to Europe seems not compatible with the FEPA and FIAP statutes so in future any new request shall be treated as a separate case.

There is the problem of European FEPA members not belonging to FIP or, vice versa, of European FIP members not belonging to FEPA. Furthermore, there is the issue of having a European country represented by one national society in FEPA and by another in FIP. In my opinion, these are facts that cannot be covered by general definitions and have to be analysed, case by case. Perhaps, for new admissions a FEPA Board member should be formally charged with presenting an assessment on the country's philatelic organisations in accordance with Art. 9.2 "FEPA may give recognition and can accept only one-member organization from each country".

Chapter IV – Administration

- The overall timing of the processes should be duly checked so that there are no inconsistencies (e.g. invitation sent out **four** months in advance but motions to be circulated can be presented **three** months before the Congress).
- It is necessary to ensure the maximum flexibility because the Congress may take place at a short time from the previous one (or quite a long time), depending on invitations.
- For communications we should use email, with double address for each member, if desired, to minimize risks connected with spam filters.
- Board meetings via video conference should be duly admitted as well as voting via email on specific urgent matters to be decided by all members (Congress prerogatives). For instance, the granting of a Congress, because organizers need to plan well in advance. The types of matters should be clearly defined.
- The sentences concerning the Auditor should be better defined and his/her election should be in the agenda of the Congress as in 12.5. Or, perhaps this role should be assigned to a member Federation not present in the Board, which would appoint one of its auditors and inform the Board. However, the decision of having the Board elected in two groups might cause a compatibility issue as at the following turn of elections a candidate from such Federation might be elected... To avoid that, an auditor should have just a two-year mandate (renewable), instead of the four of the Board.
- Maybe we should specify that Board meetings can be in person or virtual, although the present text is flexible and does not exclude any options.

Chapter VII

Provided that the next step will be a FREGEX review, which is badly needed to take care of the recent changes in the FIP GREX to which it is connected, the articles concerning the Expert Group (20.6) must be totally dropped. No action was taken to implement such provisions, as the only possible step was to build and maintain a list of experts active at FEPA exhibitions.

Chapter IX

Just to remark that having the Swiss law as reference is obsolete, as it derives from the fact that the FIP is registered in Switzerland. From a pragmatic standpoint, the most appropriate solution would be the law of the country of residence of the President.

Conclusions

A final "caveat": my analysis is deliberately not exhaustive, but it intends to stimulate proposals on how to make the FEPA structure and its way of operations better suited for a successful future.

Alan Huggins and the creation of the Federation of European Philatelic Associations – FEPA

By José Ramón Moreno, FEPA Honorary President



*Dr. Alan K. Huggins MBE, RDP,
Hon. FRPSL, AIEP*

After the first issues of stamps, collection of them started immediately and very soon associations were formed to keep in touch with others interested in his same hobby. Already in the 1860s there were a number of philatelic associations and societies. In 1869 the Royal Philatelic Society of London was founded, the oldest association still active. Almost all philatelic clubs and societies were established in Europe. These philatelic associations were later grouped into national federations. The idea of forming an international body followed naturally and at the turn of the 20th century some national federations wanted to put in place the idea. However, World War One prevented any further steps being taken toward this goal. Luxembourg reinitiated the idea in 1922 and a congress of European philatelic associations was held. Then in 1926 the International Federation of Philately (FIP) was founded in Paris. At first the FIP was not truly international since invitations to the Paris Congress were only sent to European philatelic federations, of which seven attended and became founding nations of the FIP (Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, The Netherlands, Switzerland and Czechoslovakia).

For decades the International Federation was basically a European organisation that had expanded gradually to include a number of other countries. This explains why previously there had been no perceived need to create a Continental Federation specifically for Europe. However, following the expansion of the numbers of collectors in other geographical areas, and with the formation of the American Continental Federation (FIAP) in 1968, and the Asian Continental Federation (FIAP) in

1974, there was a gradual realisation that it would be appropriate to reassess the position of the European situation in relation to FIP.

The political situation in Europe at the time was not straightforward, to say the least, but philately transcends most human divergences, and over several years a series of informal discussions between a number of prominent philatelists, including Alan Huggins, led to the conclusion that it would be worth testing National Federation interest in creating a European Federation. The British Philatelic Federation agreed to seek the views of other European National Federations, and this was where Alan Huggins became formally involved in the proposal to form the Continental Federation of European Philatelic Associations, FEPA. He also took part in discussions with the then President of FIP, Ladislav Dvorocek, who responded positively to the idea, and in 1987 the first steps to create FEPA were initiated.



Left photo: c1959 Alan Huggins' first award was in a County Federation Philatelic Societies Competition.



Right photo: In the 1970s during his time as a Senior lecturer in Biochemistry at UCL (University College London).

Dr. Alan K. Huggins was born in 1936 and was a stamp collector from the age of seven. He has collected postal stationery for over sixty-five years and progressively developed more specialised collections which have been exhibited at international level since 1970. Of twelve different exhibits to date, eight achieved large gold awards, one having been nominated for the Grand Prix in the Championship Class. Professionally trained as a biochemist, he followed a career as an academic and then as a University Administrator. On retirement in 2002 he was a Pro-Provost of University College London, having been elected a Fellow of the College in

2001. He is author of numerous articles on postal stationery and other philatelic subjects and the following books: British Postal Stationery (1970); The De La Rue Punch Book (1987); with Marcus Samuel, Specimen Stamps and Postal Stationery of Great Britain (1980); with Peter Langmead, The Telegraph Stamps and Stationery of Great Britain (2003); with Colin Baker, Collect British Postal Stationery (2007); with Edward Klempka, Great Britain: The Prepaid Parliamentary Envelopes (2013); and with Alan Holyoake, The Mulready Postal Stationery (2015). He has been an accredited FIP International Juror since 1974 having served at some twenty-five International Exhibitions and as Secretary to the Jury on a number of occasions.



*Left: Alan with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at LONDON 1980 (also present: George South Chairman of LONDON 1980, Tony de Righi Curator National Postal Museum, & Sir John Marriott Keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection).
Right: Presenting the Exhibits in the Court of Honour at LONDON 1980 to Her Majesty The Queen*

Alan is Past-President of the Great Britain Philatelic Society and the Royal Philatelic Society London. He was elected to Honorary Fellowship of RPSL in 2002 and is a member of its Expert Committee and Curator of its Philatelic Collections. He is Life President of the Postal Stationery Society and a previous President of the FIP Postal Stationery Commission, an Honorary Member of the Académie Européenne de Philatélie; and an Honorary President of FEPA. He was Chairman of the Organising Committee of the Stamp World London 90 International Exhibition and of the British Philatelic Trust from 1985-1996. He served on the Stamp Advisory Committee of the British Post Office, and as Chairman of the British Postal Museum & Archive Philatelic Advisory Committee.



*Left photo: Election to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists at Bath in 1983 Sponsored by Patrick Pearson (centre) with David Boyd, Chairman of Congress (left).
Right photo: Sponsor for Francis Kiddle at Chichester RDP Ceremony in 1995 (Máire Kiddle in centre).*

Alan signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 1983, served as Keeper of the Roll from 2003-2008 and was a member of the Board of Election from 2009-2019. He is a Trustee of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists Trust. He was elected a Membre Correspondant Etranger of L' Académie de Philatélie de Belgique in 1986, a Membre Associé Etranger of the Académie de Philatélie in 1990 and a member of the International Association of Philatelic Experts (AIEP) in 2001. He was awarded the RPSL's Crawford Medal

(with Marcus Samuel) in 1981, Bacon Medal in 2014 and Tilleard Medal in 2018; the Collectors Club's Lichtenstein Medal in 1993; the MBE for services to the British Philatelic Trust in 1996; the FIP Medal for Service in 2004 and the FEPA Award for Service in 2009. He also received the FEPA Honorary plate in 2014 on the 25th Anniversary of FEPA's formation.

When the British Philatelic Federation contacted 27 other European Federations to ask if they would support the formation of a European Federation and attend a meeting to be convened during the HAFNIA Exhibition in October 1987, it received a generally positive response. The meeting, which took place on 23rd October, was attended by representatives from 18 National Federations plus invited members of the FIP Board, FIAF and FIAP, with Ronald Lee (UK) as Chairman. He invited Alan Huggins to present the proposal for the formation of a European Federation, who explained that the concept was to provide a forum for closer philatelic co-operation throughout Europe.



Letter sent by Alan Huggins to the European National Federations for meeting in Copenhagen in 1987

A lively discussion ensued on the draft text distributed and the Swedish Federation suggested that a Working Group be formed, preferably representative of the different geographical areas of Europe. This proposal was accepted, and the following were nominated as members: Tomas Kocsis (Hungary), Salih Kuyas (Turkey), Ronald Lee (United Kingdom), Johan Olamo (Finland) and Francisco da Silveira (Portugal). One additional member from the Austrian Federation to represent the German-speaking area and one representative from the Benelux countries remained to be decided.



The working group prepared a draft text of Statutes and Regulations for FEPA which was distributed for consideration at a meeting on 3 September 1988 in Prague during the International Exhibition PRAGA 88. At this meeting further progress was made in defining the objectives and statutes of FEPA, and it was agreed to hold a further meeting in Sofia on 29 May 1989 that was attended by 26 countries. The Constitution of the Federation of European Philatelic Associations - FEPA - was unanimously agreed and Alan Huggins was elected as the first President together with other members of the Management Committee: T. Kocsis (Hungary), S. Kuyas (Turkey), F. da Silveira (Portugal), C. Sundman (Finland), J. Voskuil (Netherlands) and K.H. Wagner (Austria).

Also present was FIP President Ladislav Dvoracek who welcomed the formation of FEPA and indicated that an application to become an associate member of the FIP would be welcome and would receive a positive response. Its founding objectives were, and remain: To facilitate contact between member associations; To promote European philately in its broadest sense; To represent a European

point of view to other international philatelic organisations; To collaborate in stimulating interest among young collectors; To promote the study and research of philatelic material; To give advice to the organization of philatelic events in Europe; To encourage the publication and distribution of philatelic literature and to promote the participation of exhibitors and the exchange of jurors in the National Exhibitions of the member countries of FEPA. It was agreed to accept Israel as a member, and countries in North Africa could become members so long as they did not have their own Continental Federation.



Left photo: Opening Ceremony of STAMP WORLD LONDON 90 with FIP President Ladislav Dvoracek on right and Sir Bryan Nicholson, Chairman of the British Post Office. Right photo: Presenting a display to a local philatelic society.

The first FEPA Congress was held in London on May 11, 1990, during the London 90 Exhibition. The Spanish Federation – FESOFI - requested and obtained unanimously FEPA's first sponsorship of an exhibition: "RUMBO AL' 92", to take place in Seville in October 1991. However, the first exhibition to be held with FEPA patronage and support was LILIENTHAL 91 in Dresden on August 1991. At the FIP Congress held in London a few days before the FEPA Congress, the incorporation of the continental federations, FEPA, FIAF and FIAP, as Associate FIP Members had been approved.



Left photo: This nice pennant was the first FEPA Flag.

Right photo: First meeting after the election of the new Board of Directors in Oslo 1997. Left to right, José Ramón Moreno (Director), Alan Huggins (Honorary President), Jaap Voskuil (Secretary General), Klaus Eitner (Vice-President), Ingolf Kapelrud (President), Marcel Van der Mullen (Treasurer), Samir Fikry (Director) and Ludwik Malendowicz (Director).

At the FEPA Congress held in London 1990, Egypt and Romania were elected to membership; a logo design was approved, and the preliminary questionnaire results were discussed. A number of other initiatives arose out of the 1991 meeting – a questionnaire on Youth Philately; the listing and ranking of Regional and National exhibitions; compilation of information on Customs procedures;

and for the Chairman to hold discussions on various matters in Tokyo with FIAF and FIAP as well as the President of FIP. These discussions were duly held and proved to be a very positive step towards greater interaction and co-operation between the Continental Federations and with FIP. At the Tokyo FIP Congress a day later, FEPA took its place for the first time as an Associate Membership of FIP alongside FIAF and FIAP.

The 1992 FEPA meeting took place in Granada in Spain on 2 May 1992. Reports were made on exhibitions that had taken place in 1991 with FEPA patronage and/or support, and patronage for forthcoming exhibitions was confirmed. Albania and San Marino were elected to membership and a wide-ranging discussion took place on the rapidly changing political structure of Europe and the impact that could have on future applications for FEPA membership. It was generally agreed that recognition by the United Nations and by the UPU would serve as normal criteria for acceptance.



Left photo: Alan Huggins receives the FEPA Honorary Plate in 2014 from the FEPA President, José Ramón Moreno, in Lugano, Switzerland on the 25th Anniversary of FEPA's formation.



Right photo: Alan Huggins, first President and Mastermind of the creation of FEPA, meets HM Queen Elizabeth II in November 2019 during her visit to RPSL to mark its 150th Anniversary.

At the 1994 FEPA Congress in Den Haag during FEPAPOST 94, Alan Huggins presented "The FEPA Handbook" from which much of this text is taken. That synopsis of the background to the formation and development of FEPA demonstrates that the Federation of European Philatelic Associations was firmly established at its foundation and provides a sound base from which we can look forward with confidence to the future by providing a firm underpinning support to European philately both within Europe and on a worldwide basis.

Thank you Alan and congratulations for your extraordinary contribution to the development of Philately !

NOTE FROM DR. ALAN K. HUGGINS

It came as a complete surprise to me when José-Ramón Moreno approached me for information and photographs for an article about my involvement in the formation of FEPA. Having seen the result of his authorship I would like to personally warmly thank him, not only for his idea, but also for creating such an excellent outcome. Over the years I have been involved in many aspects of philatelic endeavour, but the ongoing development of FEPA and its interactions within both European and international philately, have been a source of very considerable satisfaction to all those involved in its formation. Finally I would like to pay a personal tribute to the distinguished service given to Philately by outgoing President Jose-Ramon Moreno and wish our new President, Bill Hedley every success.

Alan Huggins

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ESTONIA 2020

We congratulate the International Estonian Philatelic Society which, despite all current difficulties, is pressing ahead with organising ESTONIA 2020 from 10-12 July at the Estonian National Museum in Tartu. Their view is that the traditions of the association's philatelic exhibition date back to 1936 and it is important to follow them even in difficult times.



There will be approx. 400 frames in the exhibition which is designed to promote philatelic contacts and co-operation around the Baltic Sea. In addition to non-competitive classes there will be competitive exhibits in the Traditional, Postal History, Aerophilately and Astrophilately, Postal Stationery, Thematic, Open, Modern, Revenue, Postcard and Literature classes as well as a Youth Philately class.



Each participant, including participants in the youth class, will be awarded a medal. Eesti Post has also designed a postal stationery card dedicated to the exhibition. During the exhibition a temporary Postal Office will be opened with a special cachet.

ESTONIA 2020 has FEPA Recognition. At the time of writing applications for the exhibition are still possible, but by the time of publication the exhibition will have taken place. We will report on what happened in the next issue of FEPA News.

Ö V E B R I A 02. – 04. Oktober 2020



Am 16. April 1920 wurde im Park-Cafe in der Bahnhofspromenade der BSV St.Pölten gegründet. Ein Jahr später war der Verein Gründungsmitglied des Österreichischen Philatelistenverbandes mit der Verbandsnummer 002. Der 100.



St. Pölten _ Jahnturnhalle

Geburtstag war daher Anlass für den VÖPH, dem Verein mit aktuell 225 Mitgliedern die Austragung der Österreichischen Verbandsbriefmarkenausstellung (=ÖVEBRIA) zu übertragen. Diese findet im Rang I und II in der Jahnturnhalle statt, welche sich ziemlich genau in der Mitte zwischen altherwürdigem und modernem Stadtbild befindet: Auf der einen Seite sind es wenige Gehminuten in die barocke Innenstadt, geprägt von Baumeistern wie Jakob Prandtauer und Joseph Munggenast oder dem Barockmaler Daniel Gran. Dem gegenüber befindet sich an der Traisen das 1995 eröffnete moderne Regierungsviertel mit Klangturm, Landhausschiff, Landesmuseum und Festspielhaus.

St.Pölten ist seit 1986 Landeshauptstadt von Österreichs größtem Bundesland Niederösterreich, gelegen zwischen Wien und Linz an der Westbahn. Geprägt durch zahlreiche Schulen, Kulturstätten und Betrieben wie Voith, ÖBB oder Egger-Bier, unterhält man auch viele Partnerschaftsbeziehungen mit anderen Städten in Europa, Amerika und Asien.

Eine der tragenden Säulen dabei ist der BSV St.Pölten, er

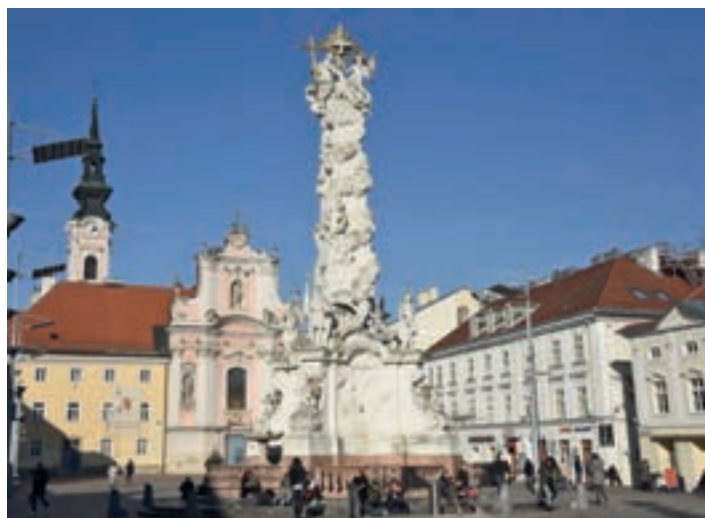
feiert während der ÖVEBRIA den 50. Städtepartnerkongress mit seinen Freunden aus Heidenheim / Deutschland, Clichy / Frankreich, St.Gilles / Belgien und Brünn / Tschechische Republik. Zum Ausdruck kommen dieses Jubiläum am Jubiläumsmarkenblock, den es **exklusiv** nur beim **BSV St. Pölten** gibt. Gestaltet von Vereinsmitglied Alfred TATSCHL zeigt der Block links das Vereinslogo mit dem Gründungsdatum, rechts mit Klangturm, Regierungsviertel sowie Rathaus und Passauer Wolf Symbole von St.Pölten alt und neu. In der Mitte illustriert der EU-Hintergrund die europäische Verbundenheit mit den Städtepartnern, Den Hintergrund bildet eine alte Ansicht vom St. Pöltener Bahnhofsvorplatz in die Kremsergasse mit großer Symbolik: Das Cafe Bahnhof (links im Bild) war von 1920 bis 1938 der **erste Vereinstreff**. Die Rahmenfarben der Marken symbolisieren NÖ, die EU und St. Pölten.

Ein Besuch in St. Pölten bietet natürlich auch sehr schöne Ausflugsmöglichkeiten, einerseits Wien mit seinen weltberühmten Sehenswürdigkeiten, aber auch mit Panorama-Schmalspurbahn „Himmelstreppe“ nach Mariazell oder in die nahe gelegene Wachau, dem UNESCO Weltkultur- und Naturerbe, mit herrlichen Bauten und einem hervorragenden Wein.



Weitere Informationen zum Verein und zur Ausstellung finden Sie auf www.voeph.at sowie www.bsvstpoelten.at oder bei BSV St.Pölten, c/o OStR.Mag.Helmut Kogler, 3100 St.Pölten, Goethestrasse 45 / heko@bsvstpoelten.at

Wir freuen uns auf Ihren Besuch in einer der ältesten Städte Österreichs.



St. Pölten – Town Hall Square and Trinity Column

nal painting by Daniel Gran in the town's cathedral, and on the other side of the river Traisen visit the new governmental district.

St.Pölten has been the capital town of Lower Austria, Austria's largest province, since 1986, and is situated on the West Railway Line between Vienna and Linz. Numerous educational and cultural institutions as well as companies like Voith, ÖBB or Egger Brewery are located here, and the local community maintains partnerships with other towns in Europe, America and Asia. The Philatelic Club of St.Pölten is also involved in fostering these partnerships by organizing the 50th partnership congress during the ÖVEBRIA with delegations from Heidenheim / Germany, Clichy/France, St.Gilles / Belgium and Brno / Czech Republic. These partnerships are represented on the jubilee stamp block, available exclusively from our club. Designed by a club member, Alfred **TATSCHL**, the block shows the club's logo with the founding date on the left-hand side and buildings of the old and the new town on the right-hand side. In the middle there are the emblems of the club's European partners. The background is an ancient picture postcard showing the square in front of the railway station and the "Café Bahnhof", where the club had its meetings until 1938. The colours around the

On April, 16th 1920, the Philatelic Society of St.Pölten (BSV) was founded in the „Park-Cafe“ near the local railway station. One year later, the club was one of the founding members of the Austrian Philatelic Federation and assigned number 002. Today it's the largest club in Austria with 225 members. Due to the fact that BSV, celebrates this year its 100th anniversary, the Austrian Philatelic Federation has authorized BSV St. Pölten to host "ÖVEBRIA 2020". The exhibition, comprising class I and II, will take place in the "Jahnturnhalle", which is located between the historical baroque town and the modern buildings of the new administrative centre, comprising the government buildings of the province of Lower Austria. Within walking distance, you can see baroque buildings designed by Jakob Prandtauer and Joseph Munggenast



stamps symbolize Lower Austria, the European Union and the city of St.Pölten.



A visit to St.Pölten provides a multitude of leisure and excursion possibilities, on the one hand Vienna, with world-famous places of interest, as well as a trip on the panorama narrow-gauge railway „Himmelstreppe“ to Mariazell or to the nearby Wachau, one of the UNESCO World Heritage Sites with famous buildings and an excellent wine.

Narrow-gauge railway St.Pölten - Mariazell

www.bsvstpoelten.at or contact BSV St.Pölten, c/o OStR.Mag.Helmut Kogler, A-3100 St.Pölten, Goethestrasse 45 / heko@bsvstpoelten.at

We are looking forward to welcoming you in one of Austria's oldest towns.

NORDIA 2020 will take place in Malmö from 4-6 December 2020

Welcome to



NEW DATE
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NORDIA 2020

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A Nordic Exhibition in Malmö

Welcome to a philatelic exhibition with Nordic status.

The exhibition is organized by a number of philatelic clubs together with all the Nordic Philatelic Associations. It will take place at MalmöMässan convention center, only 13 minutes by train from Copenhagen Airport!

The exhibition is supported by:

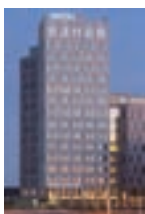


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Following postponement due to the Corona pandemic, Nordia 2020 will kick off in Malmö on 4th December. The exhibition will be open on:

- 4 December 11:00 – 18:00. Opening ceremony 12:00
- 5 December 10:00 – 17:00. The Palmares banquet will be held at the Malmö Arena Hotel.
- 6 December 10:00 – 15:00.



Malmö Arena Hotel



MalmöMässan Convention Centre



The Silver Postiljon

The exhibition will have over 800 frames including an invited class and Court of Honour. Members of The Club de Monte Carlo will show international rarities. More than 25 dealers and Postal Administrations will have stands. Postiljonen's Challenge Trophy "SilverPostiljonen" (*The Silver Postiljon*) will be awarded for the best exhibit in the Championship Class and the winner will become "The Nordic Champion".

The Official Nordia hotel will be the Malmö Arena Hotel, across the road from the Convention Centre. More information on hotel reservations and the exhibition is at www.nordia2020.se

NORDIA 2021 will be held in Kuopio, Finland, 12-14 March 2021

The Kuopio Philatelic Club celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2021. To mark the anniversary, the club will host NORDIA 2021, the first international stamp exhibition in its history, at the Kuopio Music Centre on **12-14 March 2021**.



Kuopio Music Hall, the venue for the exhibition. © Kuopio Music Centre

The exhibition is multinational, and invites participants from all the Nordic countries, Estonia and the USA. In addition, Nordia exhibitions have traditionally attracted exhibitors from the UK, Germany, the Netherlands and Russia.

Following its postponement due to the Corona pandemic, NORDIA 2020 will be held in Malmö on 4-6 December 2020, only three months before Kuopio's exhibition. The closeness of the two exhibitions has created challenges for the two organizing committees but they are working together to make both events a success.

With its target of 800 frames NORDIA 2021 will be among the biggest exhibitions in Europe that year. All FIP classes are covered including postcards. The international jury will be led by Lars Engelbrecht, RDP. He became acquainted with Finnish philatelists while serving as secretary of the jury at the outstanding FEPA Patronage Finlandia 2017 stamp exhibition.



Interior of the Kuopio Music Hall during the Savofila 2013 national exhibition

The exhibition will present postal and cultural history in many different ways. One of the special themes this time will be the 150th anniversary of Finnish postal stationery.

Kuopio is easily reached by international flights via Helsinki. The public has free access to the exhibition. Domestic and foreign visitors are invited to come and enjoy the cosy atmosphere, friendly people, many dealers and interesting exhibits. Kuopio is also known for its beautiful white winters.

More information can be found at <https://www.postimerkkikerho.fi/nordia-2021/>



IBRA: World Exhibition in Essen, 6 – 9 MAY 2021

IBRA will be the next World Stamp Exhibition to be held in Europe with FIP Patronage and FEPA Recognition. It is being organised by the Bund Deutscher Philatelisten e.V. (BDPh) under the leadership of its President, Alfred Schmidt, and will take place in Halls 1 and 2 of the Essen Exhibition Centre (Messe Essen – south entrance) from 6 – 9 May 2021. The exhibition has been honoured with the patronage of Dr Angela Merkel, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany.

This will be the first IBRA since 2009 and Thomas Höpfner, IBRA Coordinator, is looking forward eagerly to the world of philately meeting again in Germany. He commented that 'there will be something for everyone to discover, the beginner as well as the top-class philatelist, and it will be a great opportunity to cultivate the partnership between the collector and the commercial trade.'



Messe Essen



Essen Skyline

In addition to 2,800 frames of exhibits, the attractions at IBRA 2021 will include:

- A wide range of dealers and postal administrations.
- Many services for collectors such as advice from experts and tips on setting up collections.
- Autograph sessions with stamp designers and sportsmen are also planned.
- A "Forum for Collectors" that will offer lectures and introductions to various areas of collecting every day at hourly intervals, organised by the Consilium Philatelicum of BDPh.
- Three special salons in Hall 2:
 - "75 Years of the Association of German Philatelists" (BDPh).
 - "150 Years of the Reichspost".
 - "75 Years of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia".
- Several special auctions.
- The IBRA Palmares Evening, which will take place on Saturday, 8 May 2021.



For further information visit the IBRA 2021 website https://ibra2021.de/_ibra/ where the special IBRA bulletin 'Info 1' can be downloaded together with the IREX and the application form for exhibiting. It also provides a list of each country's national Commissioners to IBRA.

The organizing committee, composed of Alfred Schmidt, Jan Billion and Walter Bernatek.

Alpe Adria 2021: same days, just one year later!

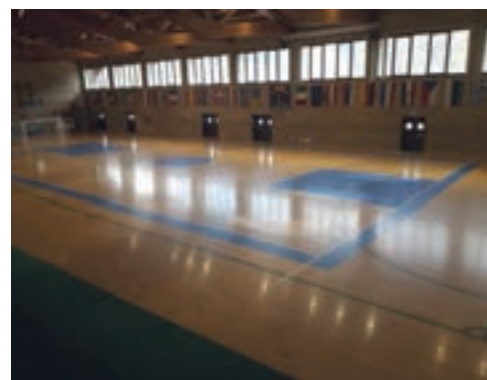


Gabriele Gastaldo and Francesco Gibertini write:

As a result of the emergency caused by the Covid-19 pandemic the Organizing Committee of ALPE ADRIA 2020, in agreement with the Alpe Adria Philatelic Community, was obliged to reschedule the XXVth edition of the Exhibition. It will now be held in Tarvisio (Italy) from 10 - 13 June 2021.

However, the organizational activity never stopped, aimed at arranging the event in the best possible way, on its two main lines - the competitive exhibition and the international trade fair. Based on applications already received, the event in 2020 would have been attended by about 90 exhibitors and about 30 dealers. The basic idea of the Organizers has been to "freeze time", to do what was planned for this year exactly one year later with the same competing exhibitors, the same dealers and the same Alpe Adria working group, performing what it was set up to do. This will be the fourth time that the Alpe Adria exhibition is hosted in Italy, after the editions of 2000 in Codroipo, 2007 in Caorle, and 2013 in Appiano-Eppan.

The event will take place in Tarvisio, located at the border with both Austria and Slovenia, with access to the A23 Alpe-Adria motorway, part of the European route E55 running from the Austrian A2 Süd Autobahn to Udine, and the A4 autostrada at Palmanova. The Tarvisio railway station is located at the new Pontebbana line from Villach to Udine opened in 2000.



The Exhibition will be hosted in the "Palazzetto dello Sport, i.e. the Sports Hall of Tarvisio, formed by two indoor facilities of about 1,200 square metres and about 750 square metres respectively, connected by a covered tunnel. The Palazzetto is located close to the centre of town and can be reached easily on foot or by car, with a wide parking area. Guests and exhibitors can find accommodation in two hotels, the first about 1 km and the second about 6 km from the Exhibition venue, with a shuttle service available.

The Exhibition has been granted the recognition of FEPA and the patronage of FSFI, the Autonomous Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia and the Municipality of Tarvisio. It will be open from Thursday 10 June to Sunday 13 June, with opening hours 10.00-18.00 (closing on Sunday at 14.00). The opening ceremony will be on Thursday at 18.30 and the Palmarès on Saturday at 19.00. On Friday there will be a presentation in the Town Hall.

The main philatelic meetings will be:

- Postal History conference on Thursday at 16.30;
- Meeting of jurors and exhibitors on Sunday at 11.00.
- The annual meeting of the Alpe Adria philatelic community on Sunday, at 9.00.

Due to its position and history, four languages are spoken in Tarvisio: Italian, German, Slovenian and Friulan, the old Romance language of the region. So, let's say to our guests **BENVENUTI! WILKOMMEN! DOBRODOŠLI! BENVIGNÛT!**

Further information is available at the exhibition websites:

www.unione circolifilatelice ifvg.it; www.facebook.com/EventoAlpeAdria/

Contact email addresses: Organizing Committee info@unione circolifilatelice ifvg.it;

General Commissioner gabrigastaldo@gmail.com

OSTROPA : NEW DATES 5 – 8 NOVEMBER 2020

Wie informiert, wurde die OSTROPA 2020 bedingt durch die Corona Epidemie verschoben. Wir hoffen, dass wir uns im Herbst dieses Jahrs wieder ohne erhebliche Einschränkungen bewegen können und keine Reisebeschränkungen mehr in Europa herrschen. Mit dieser Maßgabe hat sich das Organisationskomitee der OSTROPA entschlossen, die Vorbereitungsarbeiten wieder zu intensivieren und die Ausstellung noch im Herbst 2020 durchzuführen. Mit Unterstützung des Russischen Hauses der Wissenschaft und Kultur in Berlin haben wir einen freien Termin gefunden und bereiten in den nächsten Monaten alles vor, um die OSTROPA 2020 im Zeitraum vom 5. bis 8. November 2020 durchführen zu können. Unsere Zielstellung haben wir im neuen Signet dokumentiert. Über unsere Arbeitsfortschritte und Entscheidungen werden wir laufend im Internet unter www.ostropa2020.de berichten.



OSTROPA 2020 was postponed due to the Corona epidemic but the Organisers now hope that by this autumn it will be possible again to move about without too much difficulty and that travel restrictions in Europe will have been lifted. They have decided, therefore, to press ahead with this exhibition this year. With the support of the Russian House of science and culture in Berlin they have found a date and are making preparations to hold OSTROPA 2020 from 5th - 8th November 2020. Further information will be made available via the internet at www.ostropa2020.de.



XXIII LUBRAPEX : NEW DATES 5 – 10 OCTOBER 2021

Pedro Vaz Pereira writes:

LUBRAPEX is one of the older philatelic exhibitions held in the world. Portugal and Brazil started the organization of this exhibition in 1966 and until now it has never been interrupted.

This year we planned to organise Lubrapex in Évora, to celebrate the 500 years since the creation of the mail in Portugal. It was in Évora that the king D. Manuel I gave, in 1520, the office of Correio-mor to the nobleman Luís Homem.

However, the world was caught by this terrible pandemic that has changed our lives. As a result, the Portuguese Philatelic Federation and the Portuguese Post Office decided to postpone this Lubrapex to next year, also in the town of Évora.

The exhibition will now be held from 5th - 10th October 2021.



European Philatelic Exhibition
19-22 November 2021, Peristeri Exhibition Centre, Athens, Greece

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF H.E. THE PRESIDENT OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ms. KATERINA SAKELLAROPOULOU

A. Karamitsos becomes our Major Sponsor

A. Karamitsos - leading auctioneers with regular live and postal auctions in stamps and postal history, post-cards, coins and banknotes, rare maps and books, covering mostly the areas of Greece the Balkans, Turkey and the Eastern Mediterranean - have agreed with the OC to be the Major Sponsor of NOTOS 2021. The 40-year-old firm based in Thessaloniki are the publishers of several outstanding philatelic books and the renowned "Hellas" catalogue of Greek stamps and postal history. Check out their website: www.karamitsos.com

The entry forms

The entry forms are now open and welcome. They can be submitted directly by our prospective exhibitors at <https://cometonotos.hps.gr>. Brief instructions have been uploaded on the exhibition website. The deadline for submissions is 28 February 2021.

Stay updated...

Please bear in mind that the NOTOS 2021 website www.hps.gr/notos2021 is offered in four languages: English, French, German and Greek. Everything you need to know about the exhibition is there. But still, if there is anything you cannot find, please feel free to send an e-mail to notos2021@hps.gr. The website is worth visiting regularly as a lot of pleasant surprises are still due. You don't want to miss them!

Athens is expecting you!

Greece is expecting you!

Today, our capital city and the whole country are at their best. The financial crisis is long gone and hopefully by November 2021 this virus situation will be gone for good too. Our social programme prior to, during and after the exhibition for our visitors and their families is being prepared, aiming to offer an insider's view into the manifold aspects of our land and its people. So, dust off your suitcases and plan your trip early!

NOTOS 2021 OC
www.hps.gr/notos2021





LONDON 2020 is now LONDON 2022

Towards the end of March it became clear that LONDON 2020 would have to be postponed because of the growing Corona crisis in the UK and around the world. Very rapid action was taken by the Organising Committee to safeguard the exhibition. It has now been re-branded as LONDON 2022 and will take place at the Business Design Centre in London from 19 – 26 February 2022.



This has entailed a lot of additional planning, but it has been helped by strong support from all over the world for holding the exhibition in London in February 2022. The number of exhibitors wishing to withdraw was small, but some frames will nonetheless need to be re-allocated and there are already some fresh demands for additional frames. The Organisers are approaching the question of reallocation of frames by first offering the available frames to exhibitors from the same countries as the people who have pulled out. This would help to preserve a balance between countries in terms of the percentage of applications accepted and to avoid any country falling below its minimum number of frames so that they still qualify for commissioner's rights. A refreshed IREX will be made available soon, and the deadline for qualification has been set at 31 May 2021 to allow anyone to qualify at any show on the FIP calendar up to and including IBRA.

Youth Class

One problem has been how to treat a small number of exhibitors in Youth Class 13C who will be too old for that class in February 2022. These people can be accepted into the appropriate adult class if they have qualified before the cut-off date but, as many national exhibitions have also been cancelled, qualification will be difficult. In view of that, the FIP have stated that, if a National Commissioner confirms that in their judgement one of these exhibits has reached an appropriate standard, it can be accepted.

Literature Class

It was hoped that judging of the London 2020 FIP Literature Class would take place between 30 September and 3 October 2020, running alongside the UK National Exhibition (Stampex) at the BDC. Unfortunately, however, the organisers of that event have also had to cancel their show due to the pandemic. All the books are in London waiting to be judged, and the FIP have agreed that the original jury team can proceed just with this class. The Organising Committee remains committed to carrying on with the Literature Class, but has decided to wait until the situation is much clearer before making any firm plans.

Communications

With the change of name to 'LONDON 2022', a new website is being developed and the Organising Committee is hoping to extend its coverage into Social Media platforms. Watch this space!

HUNFILEX 2022, 31st MARCH – 3rd APRIL 2022



The Federation of Hungarian Philatelists (MABÉOSZ) will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Federation's foundation in 2022 in appropriate style and is inviting as many of the world's philatelists as possible to join them. Consequently, the President of MABÉOSZ, Géza Hommonay and his team are organising an exciting and memorable World Exhibition in Hungary's beautiful capital Budapest to commemorate this important event. The exhibition will have FIP Patronage and FEPA Recognition. We can now publish preliminary information – some details may change, but the dates and venue are fixed.

The exhibition will take place from 31st March 2022 - 3rd April 2022 at Bálna (The „Whale” of Budapest), 1093 Budapest, Fővám tér 11-12.
<http://www.balnabudapest.hu/?lang=en>



The exhibition will include the following classes:

- World Stamp Championship Class (Traditional Philately, Postal History, Thematic Philately)
- Traditional Philately
- Postal History
- Thematic Philately
- Open Class
- One Frame Exhibits
- Philatelic Literature

There will be approximately 1.600 frames for exhibits, and the following deadlines have been set:

31st. January 2021	Deadline for Federations to appoint commissioners and nominate judges.
30th June 2021	Deadline for Exhibitors to submit applications.
31st January 2022	Deadline for paying the participation fees
31st January 2022	Deadline for sending philatelic literature exhibits

Géza Hommonay adds: 'In addition to a great philatelic exhibition, the Budapest Cultural Spring Festival will be taking place with many world class performers of classical music, so our guests will be able to join these events as well. See you in Budapest.'

Accommodation and travel information: Details will be published in Bulletin No. 1 in September 2020.

Website: hunfilex2022.com



HELVETIA 2022 - World Stamp Exhibition, Lugano, 18 -22 May 2022

Adriano Bergamini writes:

HELVETIA 2022 will be a specialized world stamp exhibition, with FIP Patronage and FEPA Recognition, celebrating the 160th anniversary of the Sitting Helvetia, the first perforate Swiss stamp and the first to bear the appellation HELVETIA still used today. It is organized by the Swiss Federation of Philatelic Societies in cooperation with the Philatelic Society of Lugano.

Philately has a long tradition in the Ticino. The Club Filatelico Ticino, founded on 2nd February 1909, was a federation covering the three main locations (Bellinzona, Locarno and Lugano) with headquarters in Bellinzona. In 1938 it split into three autonomous clubs. The first philatelic event in Ticino was the general meeting of the Union of Swiss Philatelic Societies in 1910 and the most recent were the national exhibitions LUGANO 2014 (that also hosted the annual Alpe Adria exhibition), and NABA 2018 spread over 1800 frames. In 2016 the Club was granted the FEPA Certificate of Appreciation 2015 for its contribution to the development of philately.



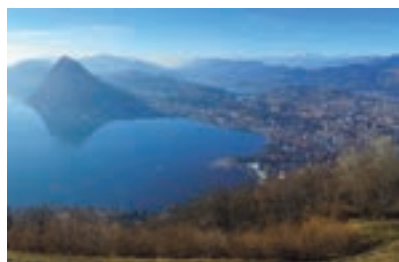
The waterfront at Lugano



*Adriano Bergamini and Bill Hedley at NABA
in 2018*

HELVETIA 2022 will be held at the Padiglione Conza, Lugano's fairground and convention centre, which has space for approx. 2,000 exhibition frames. The competition classes will be: World Stamp Championship, Traditional, Postal History, Postal Stationery, Aerophilately, Thematic, Literature, One Frame. The AIJP (Association internationale des journalistes philatéliques) and the AEP (Académie européenne de philatélie) have also granted patronage to HELVETIA 2022. The Organizing Committee will make all reasonable efforts to secure simplified customs procedures for exhibits to enter Switzerland.

The Organisers have proposed that the FIP should host its Congress in Lugano during HELVETIA 2022, twelve years after the last FIP Congress held in Europe. This will be beneficial to FEPA member federations as it will make it easier for them to participate. Lugano was the venue for the FIP Congress on 25 June 1934. Leon Putz's book on the history of the FIP reports "an excellent organisation" by Club Filatelico Lugano and its President Capt. Rodolfo Botta. In 2014 Lugano also welcomed FEPA delegates attending their annual Congress.



Lake Lugano



San Lorenzo

Lugano is Switzerland's third most important financial centre and a conference, banking and business centre, and also a town of parks and flowers, villas and sacred buildings. With Mediterranean flair Lugano offers all the advantages of a world-class city, combined with the cachet of a small town. It lies in a bay on the northern side of Lake Lugano, surrounded by numerous mountains offering splendid viewpoints. The traffic-free historic town centre, the numerous buildings in Italianate Lombardy style, the exclusive museums, the mountains, lake and a packed calendar of events all invite visitors to see the sights, soak up the atmosphere – and enjoy life. A large range of hotels provide accommodation for all needs and to suit all budgets.

The Organizing Committee is chaired by Adriano Bergamini, Jean Voruz is the Secretary General and Jean-Marc Seydoux the General Commissioner. Further information will be published on the FEPA website, and we hope that the HELVETIA 2022 website will be operational soon. As with many other activities, its development has been slowed by the Covid-19 lockdown.

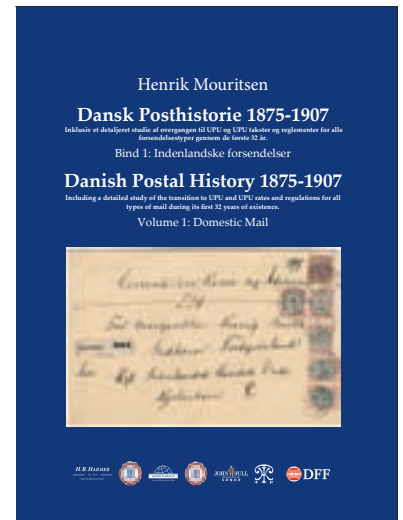
FEPA AWARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL STUDY AND RESEARCH, 2019

Giancarlo Morolli reviews the works offered as candidates for the FEPA Award.

DANISH POSTAL HISTORY 1875-1907

by Henrik Mouritsen

Professor Henrik Mouritsen's magnum opus - presenting almost twenty years of archival research - demonstrates the impact of the GPU and UPU on the Danish postal service and the world from 1 January 1875 to the Rome treaty of 1 October 1907. The publication includes all UPU regulations and rates in francs and centimes for all types of domestic and international mail during the first 32 years of UPU's existence. A comprehensive treatment of all UPU regulations for all types of mail has never been published in the philatelic literature of any country before. The book is, therefore, essential for postal history collectors of the 1875-1907 period of any country and is of the highest international importance. All statements of fact in the book are backed up by references to original contemporaneous sources, thus living up to the highest scientific level of documentation of historical facts. The text is entirely bilingual Danish/English, including captions and tables. The work also presents for the first time a detailed rarity listing of Danish domestic rates and draws also on a detailed register of the Danish postal heritage sent to foreign destinations which has been compiled since 1990. The sixth volume, available only in the premium edition, includes 73 pages of advice on how to optimize one's scores in philatelic exhibiting in three different classes and includes practical examples in the form of all the pages from the author's three FIP large gold exhibits, one in each of the classes traditional, postal history and postal stationery.



Standard edition, five volumes, c. 2000 pages; € 299 plus postage; ISBN 978-3-00-061764-5

Premium edition, six volumes in slipcase, c. 2400 pages ; € 499 plus postage ; ISBN 978-3-00-061803-1

Available from Heinrich Köhler Auktionshaus GmbH & Co. KG, Wiesbaden, Germany.

Military Medical Service activities in Berlin 1870-1945

by Hans-Werner Salzmann

Medical treatment of injured soldiers in battle has been known since ancient times. This is astonishing at first sight, as one knows how shaken Henri Dunant was when he had to watch the death of soldiers left behind helplessly in 1859 after the Battle of Solferino. With the founding of the Red Cross, Dunant also put the military medical system on a new basis because the Franco-Prussian War of 1870/71 showed the importance of good medical care for soldiers. There were a sufficient number of well-trained helpers on the German side, which is why fewer soldiers died of illness and wounds than in the field. France's medical system was still underdeveloped, and three times more French soldiers died of illness or injury than in the field. The medical troops left as many philatelic traces as other units. Field Post documents dominate but Hans-Werner Salzmann also deals with the topic from other perspectives and, for example, presents postcards with motifs from military medical services. His remarks present the field postal service, but above all portray the horror of the wars when the achievements of the individual soldiers are recognized. There is a lot to be read, even in the case of historical education, with a stupor, in particular the statements about the dilettantism of the military leadership. Nobody puts this book down with enthusiasm for war.



Original title: MILITÄRSANITÄTSDIENSTLICHE AKTIVITÄTEN IN BERLIN 1870-1945

Publisher: Morgana-Verlag Berlin; 450 pages; € 37,50 plus € 4,50 postage in Germany (Abroad on request); ISBN 978-3-96-643000-5

Available from Morgana-Verlag, Peter N. Morgen, Am Dorfanger 11, 12529 Schönefeld; www.morgana-edition.de; info@morgana-edition.de



Bojanowo Commune Described Through Its Routes and Postal Stamps *by Witold Mikołajczyk*

A journey through 380 years of the history of mail in the small town and Commune of Bojanowo (Great Poland) to the present day. The postal history is presented as an institution of public utility, covering its infrastructure, objects and employees in the Municipality of Bojanowo. It runs from 16th April 1638, the day when Bojanowo's location was fixed by edict of the Polish King, to 27th April 1683 when the Polish King Jan III Sobieski gave an edict to the post office in Lesson imposing an obligation to open a post office in Bojanowo, through the years of The Kingdom of Prussia when the town started to participate in the postal service in 1793, the great fire on 12 August 1857 and the two World Wars. After World War I Bojanowo returned to Poland in January 1920, but during the Second World War it was named Schmückert by the Germans until it was recaptured by the Soviet Army town, returned to Poland and back to renamed Bojanowo. The book is based on historical artefacts owned by the author from

the fields of heraldry, cartography, deltiology and above all, philately. It presents the postal service through covers, envelopes, postcards, letters (including ambulance post) and other postal documents, over five hundred items in all. It shows people, objects and genre scenes from previous centuries, introducing us to the different aspects of life on this land when Poland and Germany changed borders. The documentary bases are books in the field of Polish and German philatelic literature as well as state archives and official documentation from the postal service.

Original title: GMINA BOJANOWO TRAKTEM I ZNAKAMI POCZTOWYMI OPISANA

Publisher Commune Bojanowo, 312 pages, chalky paper A4, hardcover; price including postage varies from €15 to €25, depending on destination. Please enquire to get the exact amount.

Available from marek.zmuda@gminabojanowo.pl



The Romanian Post Office cancelling devices, postmarks, markings and seals 1852-2017 *by Calin Marinescu*

The work offers a relatively new approach of the subject in order to include in the classification all postmarks used by the Romanian Post Office over 165 years. Unlike previously published works, it starts from the instrument (canceller, cancelling machine, hand roll) with which postmarks were applied and then the postmarks are analysed and classified. Except in a few cases studies regarding the devices used for applying postmarks are non-existent in philatelic literature regarding the Romanian Post Office. The lack of information in the official publications of the Romanian Post, with the exception of one article in 1909, made this domain quasi-unknown. This first attempt to cover the whole domain cannot be perfect. There are still unidentified cancelling machines, canceller types and hand rolls which need future research. This volume covers and classifies manual and mechanical ordinary postmarks, seals for ink and markings of postal units belonging to the Ro-

manian Post Office, in Romania, Romanian territories and abroad, between 1852 and 2017. It is oriented towards the practical use of postmark classification and to understanding the tandem canceller - postmark. For each type

of postmark there is a summary description of the inscriptions (upper part / lower part) for a better understanding of their role in postal history. Photographic reproduction of cancellers and cancelling machines was attempted, but the number existing is extremely small and little effort is made to conserve them although the legal framework exists.

Original title: USTENSILELE DE ȘTAMPILAT, ȘTAMPILELE ȘI SIGILIILE POȘTEI ROMÂNE 1852-2017

Publisher / where to order: Oscar Print, Bucharest; 476 pages A4; price € 80; ISBN: 978 -9-73- 668500-2

Microhistory of the Turkish Posts, 1920-2015, vol. 1: 1920-1950 by Mehmet Akan and Timur Kuran

This is the first volume of a postal history project initiated nineteen years ago. Since it started to serve civilians in 1840, the Ottoman postal system operated on three continents through 3500 post offices. It is the precursor of more than 30 national modern postal systems. One of its successors is the postal system of modern Turkey, founded in 1920 during Turkey's War of Independence. Many high-quality publications exist on Ottoman postal history including fine books on stamps, rates, cancellations, and routes. But what happened after 1920? Until a few months ago, not one serious publication existed on the postal history of the Republic of Turkey. This project intends to fill the void, bringing a huge contribution to Turkish philately. The full project will consist of three volumes running to about 3000 pages and covering the period 1920-2015.

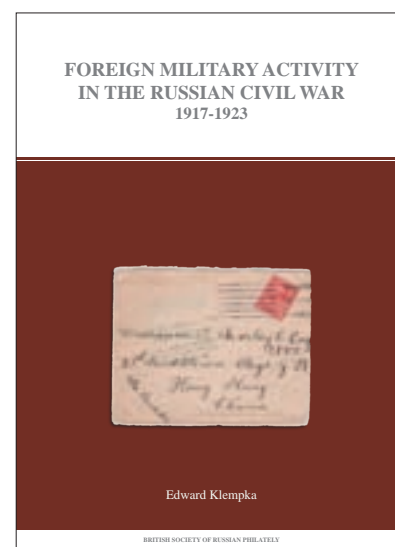
This first volume covers the postal stationery of Turkey from 1920 to 1950, including forms, reply coupons, return receipts, airgraphs, private stationery, telegram forms, and service envelopes. It studies the functions of all these forms including their changes through time. The authors aimed to expand the horizons of the Turkish philatelic community, but also to provide documentary and visual clues to historians focused on Turkish society in the 20th and 21st centuries. The book contains chapters on postal stationery categories that have not been collected seriously before, let alone exhibited or researched. Furthermore, it presents information from a wide variety of primary sources, including archives difficult to access. The work should be of value to a wide variety of European collectors whose focus lies outside Turkey. It contains fascinating information on P.O.W. correspondence from the two world wars, poignant Holocaust-related cards, Balkan rates, and the European usages of Turkish stationery. The term "microhistory" in the title reflects a collecting philosophy that puts philatelic documents in the service of history, as the book aims to generate interest in philately among historians in general through extensive information about the content of messages delivered through stationery.



Publisher: Türkiye İş Bankası Cultural Publications; 812 pages A4; price including postage €48; ISBN: 9786052958926
Distributor for Europe: <https://www.balkanphila.com/>

Foreign Military Activity in the Russian Civil War 1917-1923 by Edward Klempka (in memoriam)

Each chapter covers a country and the theatres of war in which its armies were engaged. It is not a book that illustrates the postal history of World War I. Rather, drawing on material in the author's collection, it describes the postal history of the intervention armies from the Tsar's abdication in 1917, which marked the start of the Russian Revolution, until the formation of the USSR. "It highlights the important historic events that took place and relates them to the postal history of the Civil War." – Alfred F. Kugel.



PHILATELIC PERIODICALS IN GREECE

Invited article by Anthony Virvilis RDP FRPSL

The first Greek philatelic journal, by the name *Hermes*, was issued in 1891 in Greek and French (fig. 1).



Fig. 1

Since then approximately 85 periodicals have been published in Greece, mainly by philatelic societies and, to a lesser extent, by individuals or stamp dealers. The great number of new small or larger periodicals coincided, as was only natural, with the growth of research during the 1960s. There are two main reasons why most of them did not last. The first was the financial aspect, as their audience was always small. The second was usually the lack of an editor with a fairly broad philatelic knowledge as well as the skill of persuasion in order to attract contributing authors, of whom there were never that many in the first place.

However, over the years several journals were published which left an important mark, such as *Le Timbrophile Athenien* by D. Sacorafos (1897-1899), and the *Philatelic News* by the Philatelic Club of Thessaloniki. From the second period, they included the journal of the Hellenic Philatelic Society of Thessaloniki (1932-1934, 1934-1938, 1949-1955, 1965-1966, 1988-2009); the *Philatelic Press* by P. Coroneos (1935-1938) and its offshoot *The Friend of the Stamp* by P. Savidis up to 1940; *Philatelic Greece* by S. Raftopoulos (1956-1958, 1963-1972); *Philatelic Echo* by the Philatelic Society of Piraeus (1964-1998); *Collective World* by A. Vournas (1980-1988) and *Collectio* by A. Galinos (1991-1992).

Today the following periodicals are published in Greece, shown here in chronological order of their first appearance:

Philotelia

It is the country's oldest philatelic magazine, still in circulation. Its first number was released in 1924 (fig. 2).



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

At first it was published by Stephanos Macrymichalos and in 1926 it was given over to the Hellenic Philatelic Society (HPS). Since then, it has become the Society's official publication and has been published without any interruption up to the present day. Since the end of WWII it has been published bimonthly. The journal's contributors have included eminent Greek and foreign researchers, with important studies on the Greek stamp and its postal history. During the early stages, the journal's most important articles were published in English and French. Over the past twenty years, its pages have increased to 64, of which 16 are in colour, and the research articles are also published in English. The journal has accumulated more than 100 medals and other high distinctions at international exhibitions. It has also been honoured with an award from the Academy of Athens (1975), a special reference in the Certificate of Appreciation to the HPS by the Federation of European Philatelic Associations (FEPA, 2000), and the Philatelic Press Award by the Académie Européenne de Philatélie (AEP, 2010). Thus far, Cumulative Indices have been published in five volumes (1924-2008) and 61 reprints with important studies. In 1984 the S. Macrymichalos Award was established for the best article of the year. Since 2011,

the best article is selected by on-line voting among the Society's members. In 2024 *Philotelia* shall celebrate its 100th anniversary, a milestone for Hellenic philately (fig.3).

The Stamp [To Grammatosimo]

The journal was published by the Philatelic Society of Athens in 1942 over three periods (1942-1948, 1982-1987 and since 2012). It is the society's official publication and today is issued every four months in colour (fig. 4). The Award G. Papastefanou-Provatakis was established in 2016 for the best article published in the last two years.



Fig. 4



Fig. 5

Philatelic Lesvos

The journal was first published by the Philatelic Society of Lesvos in 1976 and today is the oldest philatelic journal in circulation published outside Athens (fig. 5). It is issued every three months and sometimes includes articles in English. In 1987 the C. Binou Award was established for the best article published on the postal history of the island of Lesvos and the Northern Aegean Sea.

Maximaphilie

It was first published in 1982 by the Union of Greek Collectors of Maximum Cards and today is issued in colour every December, reviewing the maxima-philatelic news and relative articles. It is the first periodical dedicated exclusively to a philatelic Class (fig. 6).



Fig. 6



Fig. 7

Philatelic Chronicles

The Hellenic Philatelic Federation published the *Informative Bulletin* between 1980 and 1985. As of 2005 its publication has continued under the title *Philatelic Chronicles*. Today it is published in colour every December and includes the activities of the Federation, and its members in Greece and abroad (fig. 7).

Thematic Philatelist

The Panhellenic Society of Thematic Philately first published its official journal in 2000 and continues to do so quarterly, always in colour. It is the second periodical dedicated exclusively to a philatelic Class (fig. 8).



Fig. 8



Fig. 9

Lighthouse of the Philatelist

This is the official publication of the Philatelic Society of Patras (2007-2010, 2019-2020) with an original landscape format. During its first period it was a full-colour and bilingual (Greek-English) publication. Since the start of the second period it is published twice a year, in Greek only. It is the second periodical published outside Athens (fig. 9).



"From the Great Plague of Marseille (1720-22) to the Covid-19"

Esteve Doménech and Juan Antonio Llácer

Available to download free of charge at:

<http://www.fesofi.es/noticias/de-la-gran-pestes-de-marsella-al-covid-19/>

Miguel Ángel García Fernández, President of the Spanish Federation –FESOFI, took the initiative to publish this book in the light of current events on infectious diseases. He asked Messrs Doménech and Llácer, excellent collectors of disinfected mail, and in a very short time they have completed this remarkable work. The Department of Philately of the Spanish Post "Correos" has sponsored it, distributing the book free to 800 Healthcare Institutions (quite a few asked for additional copies) and to all the Societies and Clubs members of the Spanish Federation. The book is written in Spanish.

The circumstances that the world is going through this year remind us that in past centuries there were pandemics that caused the loss of millions of human lives. The prevention measures taken by governments and central, provincial and local authorities, in a common front against infectious-contagious diseases, recall those times and somehow keep a certain affinity with the current ones, always adapted to our current lifestyle.

The old rules of disinfection and quarantine that were already applied since the fourteenth century are now being executed again. Purification orders in ports and customs, and surveillance of goods and people in past centuries, retain this continuity and are now being carried out in airports, shopping centres, hospitals, homes or nursing homes.

These days the implementation of all these provisions is reflected in the good work of the entire health sector, where nurses, doctors, non-health personnel, technicians, engineers and specialists, together with the police, fire-fighters, military and other personnel of the administration of justice, advise and follow strict security measures to carry out compliance with the law in the eradication of pandemic situation.

Decisions that currently invade our mobile devices with notifications using terms like "social distance", "confinement", "pre-

ventive quarantine" also evoke past years of epidemic with its "sanitary cordons", "quarantines", "lazarets" and "isolation hospitals".



Letter sent from Perpignan on 7th July 1721 to Barcelona through Granollers, during the so-called "temporary improvement" period. On the back is the coat of arms of Barcelona, as a mark of transit. It was purified by being dipped in vinegar. Only five disinfected letters are known from the Great Plague of Marseille in the period 1720-22.

With very good perspective, in a joint and summarized vision, the book describes and details the main epidemics that have appeared in Spain and the rest of Europe between the 17th and 21st centuries, pointing out the interventions by the authorities on correspondence during these last five centuries. The work explains and shows graphically the prophylactic measures that were executed on correspondence circulated in the main cities and Lazarettos during the epidemics and pandemics in Spain and Europe during this period.



Letter bearing the Spanish stamp commemorating the current pandemic and the mark "Extraordinarily authorized postal inspection due to Covid-19".

It also points to the importance of the postal history of disinfected mail during the last five centuries, as well as the similarities between "old pandemics" and the sanitary crisis of Covid-19 that nowadays invades us.

The Musée de La Poste in Paris has re-opened



Among the more encouraging developments recently was the re-opening in November 2019 of the Musée de La Poste, located at the foot of the Montparnasse Tower in Paris. The museum has been completely reinvented following a five-year project to renovate its building that has enabled it to open up its extraordinary collections in new spaces. In keeping with its cultural and heritage ambition in the French museum landscape, the Musée de La Poste has been completely redesigned by the Jung Architectures workshop. It has unveiled a new museographic and architectural concept with a completely redesigned scenography and a new distribution of its space including a reception gallery and its “Totem” crossing three platforms of permanent exhibitions, spaces dedicated to workshops, and a gallery for temporary exhibitions, boutique, auditorium and private spaces.



Official inauguration of the museum

The Musée de La Poste is simultaneously an enterprise museum, a museum of society and a neighbourhood museum, and is labelled a “Musée de France”, responsible for presenting, preserving and disseminating postal heritage.



Claude Desarménien, President of the Fédération Française des Associations Philatéliques, and Bernard Jimenez, FIP Vice President at the opening

The collections at the Musée de La Poste are displayed optimally for a journey to the heart of the history of the Post Office, postal art and philately from yesterday to tomorrow. This new cultural destination in the heart of the capital will tell the story of a company intimately linked to that of France.



The Musée de La Poste has returned - renovated, upgraded, bright and accessible to all. Designed by the architect André Chatelin, Grand Prix of Rome, the building was originally opened in 1973. Emblematic of the architecture of the 1970s, its facade was worked on by the sculptor Robert Juvin who gave life to the three reserved blind levels to collections. Using small-scale moulded concrete to evoke the intaglio of a large-scale stamp - the serrations blending in with the grooves in the facade – helps create an original topography.



The Musée de La Poste will welcome visitors and is sure that everyone who love stamps and Postal History will enjoy their visit.

(Note: The Musée has been closed for a period in 2020 due to COVID-19. Check before visiting it).

Address: 34 Boulevard de Vaugirard, 75015 Paris

Website: www.museedelaposte.fr

Telephone: 33 1 42 79 24 24

The Istituto di studi storici postali “Aldo Cecchi”

A European centre of excellence for postal history and philately

Dr. Bruno Crevato-Selvaggi, Director of the Institute, writes:

In history – in an academic sense – postal history takes as its subject the exploration of a distinctive mode of organized communications, with a focus also on its material aspects. This approach to the history of communications is new and promising. It connects several different ways of inquiry that are often considered in isolation. These include social history; cultural history; diplomatic history; the history of management, entrepreneurship and commerce; the history of journalism; historical geography; epistolography; palaeography; and, of course, philately.

In March 1982, a group of scholars from both the academic and the philatelic world joined together to reorient postal history by defining it as the study of the organized postal communications. The Istituto di Studi Storici Postali was then established as a private research institution in which the accuracy of the academic scholarship and the enthusiasm of collectors could meet.

The founder, the first Director and the great animator for a long time was Aldo Cecchi. After his death in 2016, the Institute is now named after him. Andrea Giuntini, full professor of Economic history at the University of Modena-Reggio Emilia, was Director from 1999 to 2018 and his successor is Bruno Crevato-Selvaggi, historian, consultant for cultural activities... and philatelist.



The Director



A look at philatelic memorabilia

The Institute is located in Prato, Tuscany, near Florence, in an historic building that since 1982 has been an international centre for research in postal history. It is committed to the preservation, increase, and sharing of knowledge on postal-historical topics through publications, workshops, courses, exhibitions, and other related projects that promote their core goals, and it is especially interested in encouraging the sustained involvement of universities in postal history research, and in proposing new lines of research to postal history collectors.

What does the Institute do in practice?

We are three things.

First: We are an institute for preservation.

We keep a large bibliographic, archival and documentary heritage produced by many public and private subjects, which keeps increasing thanks to many donations. We save everything from the oldest documentation to the most ephemeral. We have a library, a newspaper library, a museum and an archive.



The Library



Military Folders awaiting cataloguing

Second. We are an institute for consultation.

Of course, preserving and keeping everything under lock and key is stupid and useless. All our assets are catalogued (or the work is in progress) with scientific criteria. Our premises are open to all researchers. Much documentation is already available free online. Several special catalogues are also available and others will be added later. We respond to requests for information or support for cultural or research works, scholars or collectors.

Third. We are a centre of scientific and cultural activity and organization.

As early as 1983 the Institute began its own publishing project – *Quaderni di Storia Postale* – which featured monographic essays on issues ranging from pontifical couriers, medieval merchant correspondence and the military post to the postal history in the Risorgimento, Napoleonic postal reforms, and many other themes.

Since 1999 the Institute has published the scholarly journal *Archivio per la storia postale – Comunicazioni e Società* (2 per year) which has expanded the Institute's voice to the most important scientific circles around the world. Since 2004, the Institute has also organized annual Postal History colloquia, each year focusing on a different, predefined theme. This forum has enabled academic researchers, amateurs, and experts to compare research methods and to devise new and fruitful ways of collaboration. We also hold lessons or lectures in various Italian and foreign universities, as well as conferences in international cultural institutes.

In 2019 we held an important 3-day international Conference with the participation of academics and philatelists: *Postal History: multidisciplinary and diachronic perspectives*. You can read Bill Hedley's fine report in *The London Philatelist*, September 2019.



The Congress in 2019



Volunteers at work

Finally, we have an international vocation, which is almost natural for those who deal with post, organized communication and travel.

How we work?

For budgetary reasons, we have no staff. The Vice-Director resides in Prato and takes care of the ordinary administration. All the work is done by volunteers, who work from home. Five or six times a year we gather in Prato for the weekend for tidying up the material, cataloguing, doing scientific work ... and cleaning. Many volunteers participate occasionally, a dozen with a lot of assiduity.

It goes without saying that financial challenges have always impeded the Institute's activities. From the standpoint of the law, the Institute is a private association funded mainly through members' contributions and outside donations – neither of which today cover the costs of its everyday operations. Until recently the Institute received contributions for specific projects from the Italian Ministry of Culture, the Tuscany Region, the Council of Prato and private contributors.

Our figures:

The Library: 16,000 books & pamphlets, plus a lot of other kind of literature: 30,000 records in all. Catalogue on the website.

Periodicals: 1,230. Catalogue in progress on the website.

Official publications of the Italian post office: 70 years of official journals, plus guides, rules etc. Catalogue on the website.

Philatelic trade publications (auction catalogues, fixed price sales offers, and promotional material of various kinds): 22,000. Catalogue in progress on the website.

Philatelic Exhibits (photocopies): 1,663, all on the website.

Archives: The archive of the "Direzione Superiore della Posta Militare" (Head Office for Military Mail), 162 folders and 400,000 original documents. Another 19 archives of scholars, philatelists, associations: 120 linear metres. Catalogue on the website.

Museum: Various materials and objects (calling cards, notebooks, bags, calendars, credit cards, postal cards, pins, cups, T-shirts, medals, badges, photographs, pens and other memorabilia): quantity not determined yet.

And for the future?

We intend to continue on the same tracks; indeed, doing it better. Our next big appointment: the second International Congress, Prato, in June 2021.

Our website (in Italian and in English – unfortunately, not all pages yet): www.issp.po.it.

“Post Cards Post Cards Post Cards”

Graham Winters FRPSL is Chairman of the Association of British Philatelic Societies and was due to lead a FEPA Seminar on ‘Picture Postcards’ with Seija-Riitta Laakso at LONDON 2020. After the exhibition was postponed he kindly agreed to write a summary for FEPA News on why he collects picture postcards.

My reasons for collecting picture postcards are many and varied and have inspired me to put together several very different collections. A number of external factors have influenced me.

1. Extension of philatelic collection.

My first stimulus came as a by-product of my philatelic endeavours on the main country that I collect ... Ceylon/ Sri Lanka. Having been thus attracted to them, I have built up a general collection of postcards from the island but a particular interest in cards produced by the firm of H. W. Cave, an organisation about which I wrote my first book. The Cave company produced some of the most beautiful cards from Ceylon in the early years of the Twentieth Century. Henry Cave, the founder of the company, was himself a keen photographer and his pictures were often used for the early half plate, undivided back cards. (Fig. 1.)

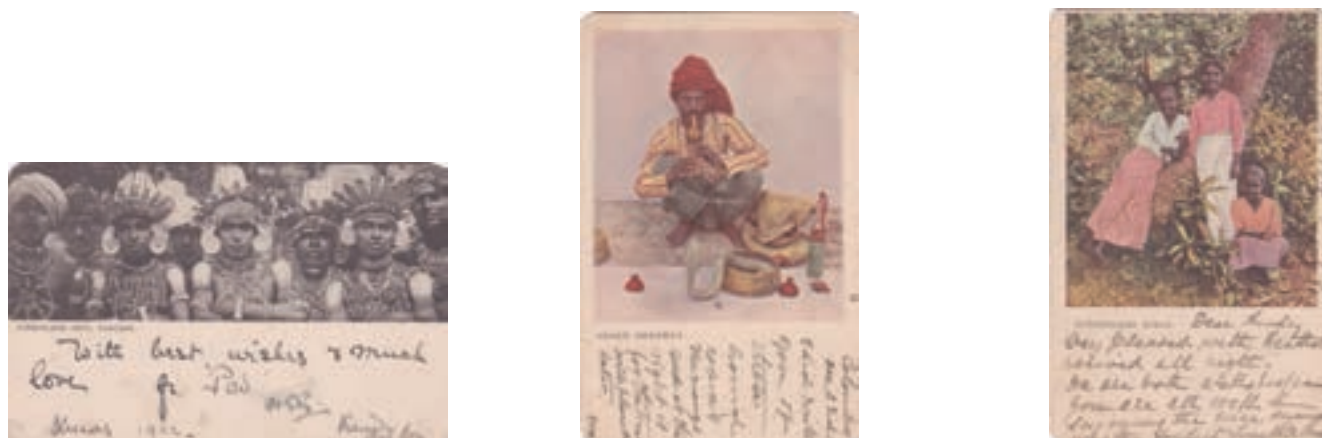


Figure 1. Half plate undivided back cards with rounded corners and gold edges by H.W. Cave and Co.

2. Local Connections.

Another of my postcard collections comes from a town in which I lived for twenty-five years, Pontefract in West Yorkshire. I was fortunate enough to purchase an archive of cards from a local printer, a friend, whose grandfather had taken many of the photographs used in these postcards. The subjects include the famous castle (the last in England to hold out for King Charles I even after his death in 1649); the racecourse (the longest in Europe); and the usual town scenes of events, streets, buildings, parks and people. (Fig. 2)



Figure 2. Pontefract Castle, Town Hall and Race Course

3. Other hobbies and interests.

I have found that these are often a good basis for a collection. Apart from philately my main outside interest was golf, and I have a large collection of golfing postcards formed over many years. Club houses, courses, people and humour all have their place in this. (Fig. 3)



Figure 3. From the Golf Collection

4. Professional interests.

During my working life I was a schoolteacher and naturally from time to time I have put aside cards relating to schools and education. It is not quite a collection, more an accumulation. (Fig 4)



Figure 4. Education at many levels

5. Inspiration from other collectors.

Having good friends and sharing interests can be another way of getting 'hooked' on a subject. I remember years ago attending a local society meeting when a very good friend showed his comic postcards. They were not beautifully presented but I have never seen an audience so completely captivated by a subject.... and so quiet.... except for occasional fits of giggles and laughter. I was 'hooked', and now I have my own comic collection which includes Louis Wain Cats, Seaside Humour and some quite unusual leather postcards, a North American novelty from the early years of the Twentieth Century. (Fig. 5)



Figure 5. Humour and Novelty

So, why do I collect picture postcards? All of these external factors have played a part but, above all, it is because they are intrinsically interesting and artistically attractive. They are also available, and relatively inexpensive. All in all, they provide an excellent route into our great hobby.

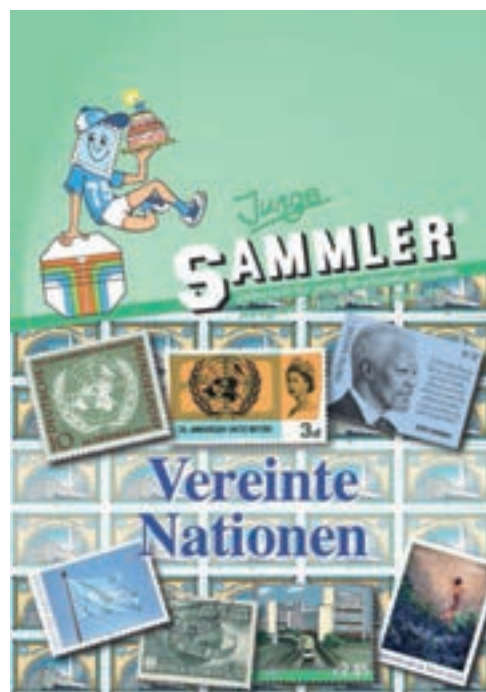
THE GERMAN YOUTH PHILATELISTS MAKE THEIR MARK

The German Youth Philatelists' organisation – Deutsche Philatelisten-Jugend (DPHJ) – has been busy during the Coronavirus lockdown period, organising competitions and events and encouraging young collectors to put their unexpected spare time to good use.

Among the DPHJ initiatives are:

- A Foundation Competition (Stiftungsbewerb) for young philatelists has been organised to take place in Mainz on 3-4 October 2020. Mainz will be the German 'Capital of Youth Philately' this year. The main theme for the Foundation competition will be 'My Definitive Issue', and there will also be Youth Team Championships and a regional youth exhibition.
- The last three issues of their magazine 'Junge Sammler' – up to March 2020 – have been made available free of charge to young collectors (of all ages, no doubt) through its website (www.dphj.de). The themes are:
 - Gods, Caesars and Gladiators – the Roman Empire.
 - Protection of Species: Protected areas and Zoos.
 - Definitive Issues.
- A 'StampCamp' for young philatelists was due to be held in Würzburg from 11-13 September but sadly it has had to be cancelled due to the Coronavirus crisis. The Organisers hope that it will be possible to re-schedule this event in 2021.
- The June 2020 issue of 'Junge Sammler' has been issued and concentrates on the United Nations which is celebrating its 75th birthday this year.

FEPA News congratulates the DPHJ on its energy and initiative and wishes it all success with its future plans. We look forward to hearing the results of the competitions later this year.



The first two issues of 'Junge Sammler' (Young Collector) for 2020.

The Post Offices in Albanian cities during the Ottoman Empire

Invited article by Bajram Peçi, Albania

By the 1800s, European states began to open their liaison services - closed for centuries - through their official missions in the Ottoman Empire, in order to allow mail delivery between these countries and Constantinople. After 1839 and the "Peace of Adrianople", nine countries (some earlier and some others later) gained privileges in the framework of the "capitulations" agreement signed with the Ottomans. One of the privileges they gained was the agreement that allowed Austro-Hungary, France, Germany, Russia, Great Britain, Greece, Italy, Poland, and Romania to perform on their own all the public postal services in the Ottoman territory. Consequently, consular post offices of several states performing mail services were established in Shkodra and Ioannina. These were two out of the four post offices opened in the central areas of the Albanian vilayets. By the end of the century, post offices of this kind were also opened in Manastir and Pristina.

Until 1840, the Ottoman Empire did not have a regular public mail service. Only transport and delivery of official documents were duly organized. The establishment of the Ministry of the Empire Post Offices, shortly after the Tanzimat proclamation in 1840, made it possible for the civilian population living in the vast geographical area of the empire to receive a regular postal service. At this time, a transport and correspondence delivery service and other postal facilities were established between Istanbul and other big cities of the country.



The Ottoman Empire in the early 19th Century

In 1850 there were only 63 post offices throughout the empire, and 1500 post offices were set up all over the country within a few years. Shkodra post office was one of these 63 offices and, according to assumptions based on the stamps on the correspondence envelopes, it was opened in the year 265 of the Islamic calendar, Hijri (1265) that coincided with the year 1849 of the European calendar. Further on, 17 other post offices were established and operated in the four Albanian-populated vilayets until 1875. Post office stamps were engraved in the Arabic alphabet writing and in the form the offices were named by the Turks. Thus, for example, Durres was named Diraç, Gjirokastra-Ergiri, Korça-Görice, Kukës-Kökes, Lezha-Les, Dibra-Debre, Shkodra-Iskodra, Vlora-Avlonya, etc.

A series of treaties signed during that time led to the Ottoman Empire losing part of its economic independence. The Crimean War, which lasted from 1853 to 1856, further exhausted the empire. In 1856, the independence of the Ottoman Empire was recognized by the Congress of Paris. Stamps with an "Albania" overprint appeared during this period. "Lloyd's" posts had begun their services in 1854 in Vlora and Durres. Austro-Hungarian post offices started their services in Shkodra in 1855 and in Shengjin in 1870. When the stamps of Italy with "Shqipnia" overprint were initially used in the Albanian territories occupied by Turkey, the Sublime Porte requested that this overprint was not practiced, but their protest was ignored.

During this period, cancellations (stampings) aroused a special interest. These cancellations, as a phenomenon of Turkish post offices, have been extensively studied by philatelists, who have catalogued several thousand of them used in the Ottoman Empire. Post office stamps in Albanian cities are encountered in five forms:

- 1] Circular: one circle with a diameter of 20 mm; with two circles (outer and inner), 24 mm, 26 mm, 29 mm, in an equidistance of a 2 mm space. Fig.1-2 (one circular); 3-15 (two circulars)
- 2] Quadrilateral (outer and inner), with a 2 mm space, 24x26 mm; 20x20 mm.
- 3] Oval, three circles with a diameter of 22x26 mm and 25x29 mm.
- 4] "Negative stamps", which were usually circular, of 24 or 26 mm, in which the Arabic letters appear uncovered, against a dark background (black or other colours depending on the ink,
- 5] On July 1, 1875, the Ottoman Empire became a founding member of the General Postal Union, soon to be renamed as "Universal Postal Union-UPU" and it is still keeping this name even nowadays. The Ottoman Empire hoped that joining UPU would eliminate the foreign post offices operating in the country, but its expectations were not fulfilled as the foreign post offices continued to be competitive. With the intention to facilitate and standardize the mail transport between members, the UPU required that the stamps were printed in two languages - Arabic and Latin.

The first stamps to be cancelled at Albanian cities post offices were "the Tughra-s" issued for use in 1863. Their main feature was the Tughra over a crescent. Tughra, a kind of monogram, was the signature of the Sultan. The series had 4 values, 20 para, 1, 2 and 5 grosh. They were not perforated.



Examples of the 'Tughra' stamps issued in 1863

Two years later, in 1865, the perforated emission was issued with 6 values, 10, 20 para(money), 1, 2, 5 and 25 grosh(pennies). They were called "Duloz's" because they were named after a French craftsman who was the designer of these stamps. The stamps designed by "Duloz" consisted of a central oval closed with a moon and a star with radiating lines and lateral arabesques indicating their distinctive oriental character.



Examples of the Duloz stamps issued in 1865

Each value was printed in a single colour. Arabic writing is overcharged with a black oval, "Postai devleti Osmaniye" or "Post Office of the Ottoman Empire". The inscription at the bottom emphasizes the denomination in para or piasters (kuruş-grosh), and thus it changes with each value. They were reproduced from 1865 to 1882, being used for 17 consecutive years. Scott lists them in 46 primary catalogue numbers, plus 29 numbers for postal taxes. Michel lists them in 38 catalogue numbers and 14 tax numbers. The first two emissions belong to the period under Sultan Abdul Aziz. Likewise, the production of stamps in 1876 took into account the Union's demand for printing.

In 1892 the Ottoman Empire, under Sultan Abdyl Hamit II, issued a series of stamps with an intricate design known by philatelists as the "Weapons and Tughra" series. The only Western writing was the value both in the number and in the text (in French language).



1 Piastre value of the 'Weapons and Tughra' issue

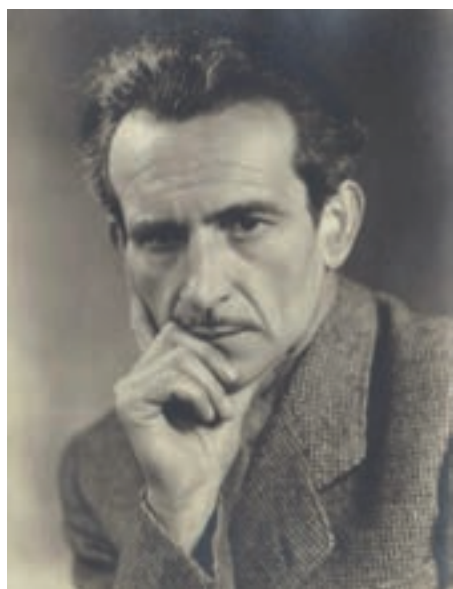
Travelling envelopes with these four emissions described above and bearing seals of Albanian cities, are rarely encountered. This is also due to the fact that domestic and foreign letters and even packages were accepted abroad only in 1901, a weighty reason why the travel envelopes could have been better stored in European countries, as it really happened. Some emissions with five values were issued later and the last emission, the one with 10 values was issued in 1908 under Sultan Abdyl Hamit II. The greatest number of traveling envelopes are found from this emission that was followed by two other similar emissions in 1908 and 1911, under Sultan Muhammad V's rule. They are well known among Albanian philatelists because of the "Shqipnia" overprinting that was put on by the Ministry of Post Offices during the Vlora Provisional Government. Albanian philatelists have specified it as "The Third Emission".

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Miroslav Oražem, designer of the first stamps for the Slovenian Littoral and Istria in 1945

Invited article by Dr. Veselko Guštin, Slovenia



Miroslav Oražem

Miroslav Oražem, born 13th March 1900 and died 23rd July 1975, was a student, painter, graphic artist, sculptor and architect. He graduated in 1927 from the Department of Architecture of the TF (Technical Faculty) in Ljubljana where he was a student of Jože Plečnik. While studying, he worked with A. Archipenko, a sculptor, in Berlin in 1929-30, and he met Le Corbusier in Paris. In the years between 1934 and 1950 he taught at the Ljubljana Technical School. He was drawn to avant-garde artistic tendencies, initially constructivism and cubism. He presented himself to the public for the first time in 1924 at the Ljubljana Youth Club exhibition with a statue of "Torzo". He showed up again in 1953 at an exhibition of the Ljubljana Society of Decorative Arts, with a plastic 'Torzo' created under the influence of H. Arp and H. Moor. He also worked in architecture, interiors and application arts. (Details have been drawn from the Encyclopaedia of Slovenia, 1994).

Miroslav Oražem also designed the first stamps of the Slovenian Littoral and Istria. The Slovenian Littoral and Istria experienced a real philatelic boom when for the first time Slovenian or Croatian words could be used on them. Stamps showing motifs of places and costumes with the bilingual inscription "Istra / Slovensko Primorje - Istria / Littorale Sloveno" arrived at the post offices on 15th August 1945. These were the 1945 equivalent of "chainbreakers".

The stamps were printed in the Ljudska pravica printing office in Ljubljana to designs prepared by Miroslav Oražem. The subsequent editions were printed with modified colours and values in Zagreb and Belgrade. Subsequently Yugoslav stamps were used for the entire territory of Venezia Giulia with overprinting on three lines "Vojna uprava / Jugoslavenske / armije" (in English: "Military administration of the Yugoslav army"). By 15th September 1947, 108 provisional, regular and revenue postage stamps had been issued. All the values were in (Jugo)lire.

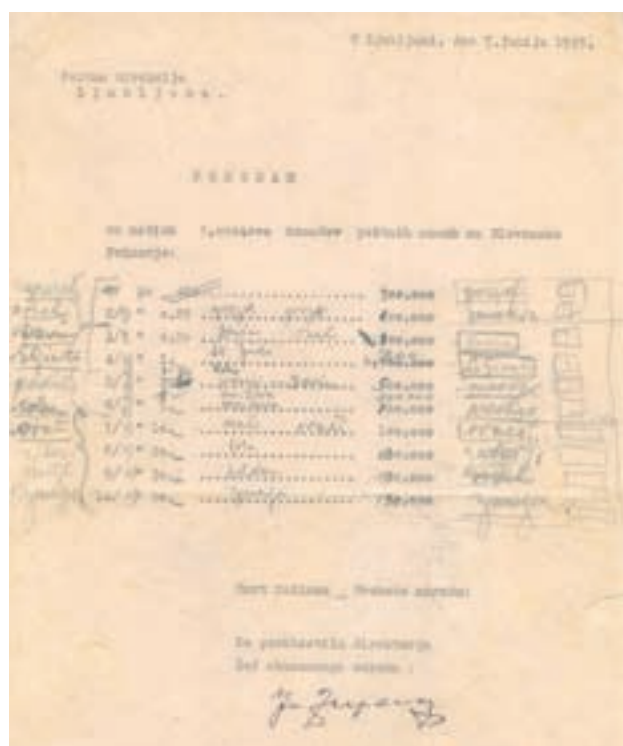


Fig. 1. Letter of 7th June 1945 from the Postal Administration in Ljubljana to Oražem

In a letter dated 7th June 1945 (Fig. 1), the Ljubljana Postal Administration informed the typographer and the designer (M. Oražem) that 5,000,000 stamps in (Jugo)lire for the Slovenian Litoral and Istria were to be made. The typed text was repeatedly corrected by Oražem with the names of the stamps, the size and the quantity to be issued. The original proposal covered 10 stamps. With the first correction two were added and one cancelled, so there were to be 11 stamps in total and the issue was expected to come out shortly afterwards.

As we know, the events in 1945 took place differently. The "victory" (zmaga) stamp for 50 lire, shown in Fig. 2, was not issued. As there was no annexation planned for Trieste, the stamp (Fig. 3) for 1 lira San Giusto (Sv. Just) in Trieste, is today known only as "not issued" in brown and red, cut or perforated. The letter was sent before the Yugoslav army had to withdraw to the Morgan line on 12th June 1945.



Fig. 2. Oražem's original drawing for the "victory" 50 lire stamp, not issued



Fig. 3. Original drawing for the 1 lira stamp (San Giusto, Trieste), not issued

The total quantity of issued stamps was no more than 5 million, probably less. Apparently, the author felt that this number was too high. If we look in the catalogue (Tergeste, catalogo speciale, A. Bornstein, Trieste, 1949-50), we see that the total quantity of stamps is even lower. This is because a significant number of the stamps were overprinted with new face values, and with "PORTO" for use as revenue postage stamps.

The first four stamps were issued after two months, i.e., on 15th August 1945. We can see from Fig. 4 that the final set of 10 stamps is slightly different from the first version.

The story of two "tt" is also interesting. All the stamps issued have the word "littoral" written with the "tt". Apparently, the error was corrected only with the essays of San Giusto, Trieste for 1 lira, where "litoral" is spelled correctly (Fig. 3). The final set also had bilingual writing (Italian and Slovenian/Croatian).



Fig. 4. Final series designed by Oražem for the Slovenian Litoral and Istria, 1945

Miroslav Ora em's legacy includes a folder of drawings with a series of sketches of all the stamps and some drawings, especially of those that were not issued (1 lira San Giusto, Trieste, 50 lire "victory"). The author made more than 20 drawings and 100 sketches.

On 29th May 2020 the Slovenia Post issued a special commemorative stamp to celebrate 75 years of the first Slovenian stamps for the Slovenian Litoral and Istria.

BUTTERFLIES AS PASSION FOR MONARCHS

PART I: EMPERORS AND THEIR BUTTERFLIES

Invited article by Vladimir Kachan, Belarus

Butterflies are so magnificent that they fascinated even Emperors with their beauty. Caesar Augustus (63 BC–14 AD) was a Roman statesman and military leader who became first Emperor of the Roman Empire, controlling Imperial Rome from 27 BC until his death in 14 AD.



Fig. 1 Augustus on a Roman coin



Fig. 2 Augustus gold Roman Imperial coin; butterfly on reverse 19 BC

Augustus used to say in conversation and write in his letters *'festina lente'*, that is, 'make haste slowly', by which he recommended that to accomplish a result we should use at the same time promptness of energy and delay of carefulness, taking advantage of both qualities. He chose as his emblem a butterfly held in the claws of a crab, accompanied by the motto *'festina lente'*. The huge, nervous, fluttering same-sized butterfly demonstrates its struggle on being tricked into the grasp of a cunning and clever crab, who must continue to hold on to the butterfly. Augustus thought that haste and rashness was "unbecoming of a well-trained leader," and to help encourage this adage, Augustus minted gold coins with images of both a crab and a butterfly. According of an astrological interpretation the crab is a representation of Cancer, the sign of the Zodiac, and an allusion to the concepts of happiness, prosperity, and worldly conquest, while the butterfly symbolizes the immortality of the soul.

The Holy Roman Emperor and King of Bohemia Rudolf II (1552–1612) was one of the most important patrons of art from the House of Habsburg.



Fig. 3 - Emperor Rudolf II



Fig. 4 - Emperor Rudolf II and butterfly

Politics was not a great interest of his. Instead he was familiar with a number of languages and was devoted to art and science, including natural history. He was a passionate and enthusiastic collector who spared no pains in acquiring objects that fired his imagination. Emperor Rudolf II collected everything in the world, but in addition to his other curious interests, he was a passionate collector of butterflies. He resided in the castle of Prague where his collection took the shape of a *Kunstkamera*, a chamber of curiosities that reflected the richness and diversity of the universe in microcosm. Paintings and decorative arts were displayed alongside scientific instruments and exotic animal specimens. Rudolf could spend hours in rapt contemplation of his pictures, sculptures, natural history specimens and curios.

The whole collection constituted a microcosmos in which things from earth, sea and air (minerals, plants and animals), naturalia, were displayed together with things made by man, artificialia. The naturalia included many exotic, odd and fantastic items, the study of which was considered the best way into an understanding of Nature's secrets. The collection also included hundreds of species of various butterflies of amazing beauty. A botanical and zoological garden were also part of the collection, with live animals supplementing all the skeletons and taxidermic (stuffed) creatures. This comprehensive collection was also intended to symbolise the power of the Emperor. Control over the microcosmos collection would indicate his omnipotence over his empire, the macrocosmos. The collection was part of a political manifestation. It was very famous, and the Emperor's guests often arrived in Prague bringing precious gifts in the hope of being allowed

to see it although not all were granted admittance to the Arts-and-Curiosity Cabinet (Kunstkamera) during Rudolf's lifetime. During the Thirty Years' War in Europe, however, Prague castle (Hradcany) was looted by the Swedes. Most of the items of value to the Swedes were taken, but a unique collection of Rudolf's butterflies was regarded as superfluous and simply thrown out.

One of Russia's greatest statesmen was Peter the Great – the last Tsar and first Emperor of Russia.



Fig. 5 Tsar Peter I on Stationery card of Russia



Fig. 6 Emperor Peter I on imperforate stamp of Russia

He was a man of unwavering willpower, extraordinary energy and supreme vision. Having inherited a vast but backward state, he propelled Russia to the rank of a major European power. Peter the Great, Peter I or Peter Alexeyevich (1672 – 1725) ruled the Tsardom of Russia and later the Russian Empire from 1682 until his death in 1725. He led a cultural revolution that replaced some of the traditionalist and mediaeval social and political systems with ones that were modern, scientific, westernised and based on the Enlightenment



Fig. 7 Emperor Peter I



Fig. 8 Russian postal stationery (1899) with butterflies

The emperor was interested in collections representing the Russian flora and fauna and himself was fond of collecting butterflies and caterpillars. He corresponded with famous butterfly collectors in Europe, and as a real collector exchanged insects from Russia with them. He was attracted to the possibility of using collections for the purposes of education and enlightenment and the opportunities for exploring nature. When he visited the Netherlands in 1716 - 17 he was looking for art and curiosities of natural history. Upon his arrival in Amsterdam in 1717, he bought a collection of watercolours by Maria-Sibylla Merian on 254 parchment sheets, on which tropical flowers, butterflies and other insects were painted with the highest artistic skill. For 17th and 18th century scholarly studies, drawings were so important that they should be regarded not as mere illustrations but as part of scientific investigations. Later Peter I bought the famous "Book of Caterpillars" with beautiful watercolour drawings by Maria Sibylla Merian and Seba's famous collection of butterflies from all parts of the world. These subjects formed the basis of the "Emperor Cabinet", and later the Petrovsky Kunstammer (cabinet of rare natural history specimens), founded in 1714 in St. Petersburg. The Kunstammer of Peter I contained herbariums and many boxes with butterflies, small animals and beautiful shells.

Francis I (Franz Stefan von Lorraine 1708 – 1765) was Holy Roman Emperor from 1745-1765 and Grand Duke of Tuscany with a great interest in the natural sciences.



Fig. 9 – Postcard showing Francis I



Fig. 10 – Stamp of Austria (1973) with butterfly on the tab

He loved botany, cataloguing plants and flowers and catching butterflies. He liked collecting butterflies, more pleasing in the pursuit than in the pinning down. The zoo and botanical garden were not the only expensive pursuits of Emperor

Francis I. In 1750 he bought one of the greatest collections of natural history objects known in Europe. It consisted of about 30 000 specimens of minerals, shells, crustaceans and butterflies.

Francis II (1768 - 1835) was the last Holy Roman Emperor (1792–1806) and, rather confusingly, he then became Emperor of Austria as Francis I (1804–35) when the Holy Roman Empire was abolished.



Fig. 11 - Emperor Francis II on Essay of Austria, 1908



Fig. 12 – imperforate stamps with butterflies

Francis was also King of Hungary (1792–1830) and King of Bohemia (1792–1836). He was known as the “Flower Emperor” because of his love of gardening and exotic plants. He had a great interest in nature and the natural sciences and added a new “animal cabinet” with exotic butterflies and other insects to his collection of natural history. He understood that his subjects had to live not only by politics and geopolitics. Since the future emperor was born in Florence (capital of the Renaissance), he appreciated art. He had an idea to create an art museum and a natural history museum in Vienna. The latter was founded much later, but the Emperor’s personal collections of rocks and butterflies, and his herbarium were the basis of its exhibits. To develop the collection of natural history he sent a group of renowned researchers to South America in 1817. These scientists collected a huge number of items during the expedition, including many tropical butterflies and sent many of them back to Vienna for Emperor collection.

Maximilian I (Ferdinand Maximilian Joseph Maria; 1832 – 1867) was the only monarch of the Second Mexican Empire.



Fig. 13 – Stamp of Mexico (1866) with Emperor Maximilian I



Fig. 14 – Stamp of Mexico with butterflies

He was a younger brother of the Austrian Emperor Francis Joseph I. After a distinguished career in the Austrian Navy as its commander, he accepted an offer, conditional on a national plebiscite in his favour, by Napoleon III of France to rule Mexico. With the support of the French army and a group of conservative Mexican monarchists hostile to the liberal administration of new Mexican President Benito Juárez, he travelled to Mexico and declared himself Emperor of Mexico on 10 April 1864. Maximilian I had a weird vision that Mexico would be the centre of an empire that ultimately would stretch down through Central America, all the way to Argentina. With the end of the American Civil War in 1865, however, the United States began to give more explicit aid to President Juárez's forces. Matters worsened for Maximilian after French armies withdrew from Mexico in 1866. His self-declared empire collapsed, and he was captured and executed by the Mexican government, which then restored the Mexican Republic.

Maximilian was fond of butterflies and birds. Of the Mexican hummingbird, he said, "It is breath and sun," named "huitzi-hlihuil", the Aztec word for "pure spirit." "It is the only bird capable of flying backward," he reported. Maximilian I was a naturalist. Flying things attracted him and he famously collected butterflies instead of attending to his crumbling empire. His “botanizing” and collecting butterflies was recorded by many sources close to him, including his wife Carlota.

The Austro-Hungarian Emperor Francis Joseph I (1830-1916) was the last emperor of the Habsburg dynasty

He reigned over his empire for 68 years – from 1848, when the Spring of Nations began in Europe, until his death in 1916. The empire outlived him by only two years. Emperor Francis Joseph I wanted a place to enjoy the peace and solitude of exotic nature without having to venture far, so in 1882 he commissioned the construction of the Palm House in the Imperial Palace park at Schönbrunn. Architect Franz Segenschmid had his hands full with a length of 111 metres, 2,500 square metres in area and 4,900 square metres of glass. The Palm House included various exotic plants and many species of butterflies and is the largest of its kind on the European continent. The Emperor also had a glass greenhouse built at the corner of his palace court garden and filled it with butterflies.



Fig. 15 – Emperor Francis Joseph I on Bosnia and Herzegovina proof



Fig. 16 – UN stamp showing the Palm House

In the mid-19th century, there was much interest in information on natural sciences, and Emperor Francis Joseph I wished to encourage this interest. On April 29, 1876, he signed the document certifying the Natural History Court Museum and the new Imperial Royal Natural History Court Museum was inaugurated in the presence of the Emperor on August 10, 1889.



Fig. 17 – The Natural History Museum in Vienna



Fig. 18 – Austrian special cancel with Museum and butterfly

The Lepidoptera collection at the Museum of Natural History in Vienna is one of the largest collections of butterflies and moths of the world. About 3.5 million mounted specimens and some hundred thousand papered samples are housed in nearly 11.000 drawers. The collection includes an estimated 40.000 type specimens which in fact are the most valuable representatives of species diversity.

The Japanese Emperor Hirohito also loved butterflies.



Fig. 19 – Hirohito, or Emperor Showa



Fig. 20 – Souvenir sheet with Emperor Hirohito

One day he commented sadly to his Prime Minister that he missed the beautiful butterflies that no longer flitted about in his imperial garden. Since this was Japan, the Prime Minister took the Emperor's hint as a command and launched a vast programme to improve Tokyo's environment. Not many years later the Emperor was heard happily describing the beauty of the butterflies that had returned to his imperial garden. Emperor Hirohito's postwar apologists characterized him as a gentle and introspective man, more interested in collecting butterflies and marine biology specimens than engaging in political controversy. He was among the Parisian cabinet's clients of Eugène LeMoult (famous entomologist and collector who specialised in butterflies)

Smithsonian Secretary Ripley presented the first butterfly name (in a created collection of so-called "butterfly letters") to Hirohito during his visit to the National Museum of Natural History in USA on October 2, 1975. His Majesty Emperor Hirohito was greatly pleased upon receiving the butterfly name-plaque.

On November 3, 1916 the Post of Japan issued a set of stamps in honour of the Nomination of Prince Hirohito as Crown Prince. On the 10-sen blue stamp the Ceremonial Cap commemorating the Nomination of the Prince heir apparent is illustrated and two butterflies are depicted.



Figs. 21 & 22 Nomination of Crown Prince Hirohito (1916)
Specimen 10 sen stamp of Japan



Essay for 20 Sen stamp of Japan.

In Japan the butterfly symbolizes all that is best in human life and is a symbol of eternity.

On 19th September 1940 Manchukuo issued stamps commemorating the 2600th Anniversary of the Japanese Empire. The 2 fen stamp features a Character written by Chang Ching-hui (Zhang Jinghui) the Prime Minister of Manchukuo and shows a figure of a butterfly at the bottom centre



Fig. 23 – Stamp of Manchukuo 1940

The text reads "In celebration of the 2600th Anniversary of the Founding of Japan" (the butterfly is his seal). The main design depicts a message of congratulation and has the illustration of a butterfly because the butterfly is a symbol of long life.

It is no coincidence that among the butterflies we find Emperor butterflies which are some of the largest and most beautiful butterflies. They are large, brightly-coloured, fast-flying and they enjoy a good drink.



Fig. 24 - Stamp of Japan (1956) with Japanese Emperor butterfly, normal and colour error.

Nature is a beautiful work of art created by God and butterflies are its ornaments. Let this tiny cute little creature fly and spread its colours across the world.

The Author is ready to help philatelists in creating philatelic exhibits on butterflies and moths. His address is : Vladimir Kachan, street Kulibina 9-49, Minsk-52, BY-220052, Republic of Belarus,
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[Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of three articles kindly provided to FEPA News by Mr Kachan. The following parts will be published in subsequent issues.]

LAY MISSIONS IN PORTUGUESE AFRICA

Invited article by Pedro Vaz Pereira. Portugal

To commemorate 100 years since Portuguese Lay Missions went to Africa, I would like to tell their very interesting story including its philatelic aspects.

Until the beginning of the XIX century the Catholic Church held a very strong position in Portugal. In 1820, however, after the Portuguese king had returned from Brazil - where he had been since the French invasion of Portugal in 1808 – the Liberal Revolution occurred inspired by ideas imported from the French revolution. A parliament was created a Constitutional Monarchy introduced. Furthermore, also following the liberal ideal, the first republicans appeared. They were completely opposed to the power of the Catholic Church and the influence it still had in Portugal.

Portugal was a colonial power, with many territories in Africa, America and Asia. In 1884-85 a Colonial Congress was held in Berlin where the borders between the colonial powers in Africa were broadly defined. The Congress also discussed trade in the Congo Basin and international trade and set rules for the territories occupied by the colonial powers including the installation of missions. In future the colonial countries would support these missions which were thus transformed into a very important diplomatic instrument for control of the territories in Africa. In Portugal this Congress caused concern that the new arrangements might lead to encroachment by other powers on its colonial possessions in Africa.

MONARCHY - Catholic Period

In 1794 a Seminary was built in the village of Cernache do Bonjardim by the regent of the Kingdom and future king D. João VI for the ordination of priests.



King João VI



Seminary at Cernache do Bonjardim

This Seminary (which still exists today for ordination of priests) has had a chequered history. On 30th May 1834, the Minister for Ecclesiastical Affairs and Justice, Joaquim António de Aguiar, expelled all religious congregations from Portugal, for which he received the name “*Mata Frades*” (Keel Friars). Between 1834 and 1855 the building was unoccupied. Then the Portuguese government decided to found an Institute of Missions there to educate young people to be missionaries in the Portuguese colonies in Asia, Africa and the Americas. It was called the Real Colégio de Missões Ultramarinas (Royal College of Overseas Missions) but it had many problems in educating priests to be missionaries. Only 5 missionaries could be ordained each year which was completely insufficient for the vast Portuguese colonial territories. Portugal was not a rich country and in 1884 it had terrible financial problems.

In the XVII and XVIII centuries the Portuguese had founded a significant number of missions but they had been abandoned and by the late 19th Century the situation was very dramatic and difficult as Portugal ran the risk of losing its colonies, mainly Angola and Mozambique, to encroachment by other colonial powers. In Asia Portugal had many missions but the situation in Africa, mainly in Angola and Mozambique, was different. Only 3 missions had been founded In Angola and none in Mozambique. The inertia at the Institute of Missions was criticized by both republicans and monarchists.

REPUBLICAN PERIOD

In October 5th, 1910, a republican revolution ended the Monarchy and a Republic was founded in Portugal. The religious congregations were again expelled from Portugal. As a secular institution the Institute of Missions in Portugal was not closed but in April 1911 an important Law on the Separation of Church and State was published. Article 189° required the reform of the Royal College of Overseas Missions and in the end a lay reform was achieved. It was carried through under the direction of a commission and the project was presented to the Minister of Colonies for approval. It was then approved in Parliament, though not until September 1917. Lay Missions were, however, created in 1913 by Decree 233. Article 19° states:

In the colonies of Guinea, Angola, Mozambique and Timor the creation of Lay Missions is authorized, which will only be composed of lay people.....with absolute exclusion of any teaching of a religious character.»



Institute of Missions, after 1910



*Group of lay missionaries
Dr. Abílio Marçal in centre*



*Missionaries destined for Mozambique,
1921*

The republicans were very clear that they did not want any connection between lay missions and religion so a Liceu Colonial (Colonial High School) was created between 1915 and 1917 with the aim of avoiding transfer of this institution from Cernache do Bonjardim to Lisbon. On September 8th 1917 a law was published regarding the creation of a new Portuguese Institute of Missions. It was given the title of Instituto de Missões Coloniais (Colonial Missions Institute). The brain of the Lay Missions was Dr. Abílio Marçal, a very well-known and important politician of the 1st Portuguese Republic, who was elected President of the Parliament in 1920.

The course lasted 3 years and the new missionary was educated in disciplines that would be useful in Africa, including medicine, colonial geography, discoveries and explorations, colonial hygiene agriculture, botany, zoology, mineralogy, topography chemistry, agricultural machinery, general pedagogy, principles of civil rights, politics and administration and many others. The lay missionary would be very well prepared for his task in Africa and women also had a very important assignment in the lay missions. A feminine school was created in the Colonial Institute where women were taught a lot of different domestic offices so that they were prepared to go to Africa to educate people in these tasks. However, the authorities recommended that, if possible, they should be married to a lay missionary.



First woman lay missionary



Cover from Liceu Colonial



Notice of the Colonial Missions Institute

The main principle of the Lay Missionaries was to go to Africa as a family because their aim was to educate people in crafts and domestic jobs. Normally a lay mission had 5 members, 4 of whom should be married to each other. The Instituto de Missões Coloniais (Colonial Missions Institute) published a Bulletin where the life of the Institute and the African events were very well described. The Lay Missions were obliged to have:

1. A school for local people to learn to read and speak Portuguese.
2. A nursery to take care of the sick.
3. A workshop where local people could learn skills in working with materials.



Missionaries with pupils, (Mozambique)



Carpentry workshop in Damba, Angola

In 1920 the first two Lay Missions travelled from Portugal to Angola and in 1922 more missions were sent to Mozambique. The lay missions were only in Angola and Mozambique for 6 years (1920-1926). In Angola 9 missions and 2 branches were cre-

ated and there were 4 missions and 13 branches in Mozambique. 138 women and men were sent to Africa as lay missionaries meaning that the Republic did much more in 6 years than the Catholic Church had done in 55!



Local people at Pátria Mission, Mozambique



Water colour maps of Patria Mission (Mozambique)

Movimento Escolar da Misão "Pátria"			
(1926)			
ALUNOS MATRICULADOS			
Novembro.....	30	Desembar do Daachaba.....	30
Dezembro.....	30		
Janeiro.....	30	Maio.....	30
Fevereiro.....	30	Junho.....	30
Março.....	30		
Abril.....	30	Setembro.....	30
Mai.....	30	Outubro.....	30
Junho.....	30	Provisão todos os dias.....	30
MOVIMENTO DA AMBULANCIA			
(NA VIZI)			
Novembro.....	10	Dezembro.....	10
Dezembro.....	10	Janeiro.....	10
Janeiro.....	10	Fevereiro.....	10
Fevereiro.....	10	Março.....	10
Março.....	10	Abril.....	10
Abril.....	10	Mai.....	10
Mai.....	10	Junho.....	10
Junho.....	10	Setembro.....	10
Setembro.....	10	Outubro.....	10
Outubro.....	10	Provisão todos os dias.....	10
VACINAÇÃO			
Novembro.....	10	Dezembro.....	10
Dezembro.....	10	Janeiro.....	10
Janeiro.....	10	Fevereiro.....	10
Fevereiro.....	10	Março.....	10
Março.....	10	Abril.....	10
Abril.....	10	Mai.....	10
Mai.....	10	Junho.....	10
Junho.....	10	Setembro.....	10
Setembro.....	10	Outubro.....	10
Outubro.....	10	Provisão todos os dias.....	10

Patria school history (Mozambique)



Cartilha Experimental (teaching aid in reading)



Letter from Lay Mission in Lusídas (Angola) to Portugal



Letter from Lay Mission República (Angola) to Portugal

PHILATELIC POINTERS

It is not known whether correspondence from the Instituto de Missões Ultramarinas (Institute of Overseas Missions) was free of postage during the Monarchy period. However, the Portuguese Republican government gave the Colonial Missions Institute

an exemption from paying postage. Mail from the institute could be sent free of charge and this was mentioned on the postal material.



Postal Stationery of the Colonial Missions Institute



Letter sent free of charge, August 1916



Postcard sent free of charge, 1920

In October 1915 the Liceu Colonial (Colonial High School) was founded. The Government Gazette of April 1916 published its rules. Article 114° states: *'The postal and telegraphic correspondence of the Institute is dispatched officially.'* Some postal materials were printed with **S.R.** and **FRANCA**, but they referred to *Instituto de Missões Ultramarinas*, the name used in the monarchical period. The letters **S.R.** stand for **SERVIÇO DA REPÚBLICA** (Service of the Republic). **FRANCA** means free of postage. The Institute was reformed by decree on September 8th 1917 and the name was changed to Instituto de Missões Coloniais (Colonial Missions Institute). Article 40° reiterated that, *'The postal and telegraphic correspondence of the Institute is dispatched officially.'* The postal material again mentioned **S.R.** and **FRANCO**, but the name is now *Instituto de Missões Coloniais*. The text on covers and postcards delivered by the Instituto de Missões Coloniais stated: **Decreto 3352 8/9/1917 Isento de Franquia** (Decree 3352 8/9/1917 Exempt from postage).




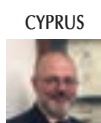



Postal documents from the Colonial Missions Institute used after September 1917 and sent free of charge

On 13 May 2013 the Portuguese Post Office issued these stamps (0.36 and 0,80 euros and block of 2.60 euros) commemorating the centenary of Decree No.233 which created the Lay Missions.



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Hans Kraaibeek

Shortly before this issue of FEPA NEWS went to press, we heard the sad news that Hans Kraaibeek passed away on 23rd June. He was a dedicated philatelist and was President of the Netherlands Federation when he died. He was 58 years old and had been ill for some time.



Rest in Peace.



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FEPA NEWS

Important Message to all FEPA Members

In these times of rapid change it is more important than ever to share information on innovations, best practice and interesting developments to help others. The FEPA NEWS website is ideally placed to keep everyone informed of what is going on, and we are now reaching out to a wider audience through our Newsletters.

If you have news that would like us to post on the website, or to publish in the twice-yearly magazine, please contact us. The address is:

info@fepanews.com

EXHIBITION CALENDAR

Date	Name	Place	Category
2020			
10-12 July	Estonia 2020	Tartu	National with international participants, FEPA Recognition
15-16 August	SFEx 2020	Helsinki	National
28-30 August	"phila"-Toscana 2020	Gmunden	National Austria, Rang I, II and III
28-30 August	Antverpiade 2020 Postponed	Antwerpen	Belgian National Philatelic Exhibition 2020
4-6 September	Nordia 2020 Postponed	Malmö	Multinational, Nordic countries, FEPA Recognition
17-20 September	Balkanfila 2020 Postponed	Bucharest	Multinational Balkan countries + Egypt + Israel, FEPA Recognition
September 30-October 3	Autumn Stampex 2020 Postponed	London	UK National exhibition with international participation
2-4 October	ÖVEBRIA 2020	St. Pölten	National class 1 event with international participation, FEPA Recognition
20-25 October	Lubrapex 2020 Postponed	Évora	National
5-10 November	Indonesia 2020	Jakarta	Specialized world exhibition. FIP Patronage
5-8 November	Ostropa 2020	Berlin	National with international participation, FEPA Recognition
21-22 November	Nyborg 2020	Nyborg	National
27-29 November	AICPM.NET 2020	Verona	National postal history
4-6 December	NORDIA 2020	Malmö	Postponed from September, 2020 Multinational, Nordic countries, FEPA Recognition
2021			
12-14 March	Nordia 2021	Kuopio	Multinational, Nordic countries, FEPA Recognition
17-20 March	South Africa 2021 Postponed	Cape Town	World specialized exhibition, FIP Patronage
18-20 March	Hertogpost 2021	Hertogenbosch	Postponed from 2020 National, with international participation, category I-II
6-9 May	IBRA 2021	Essen	International, FEPA Recognition. FIP Patronage pending
10-13 June	Alpe Adria Tarvisio 2021	Tarvisio	National with international participation, Rang I. FEPA Recognition
11-13 June	ANTVERPIADE 2020	Antwerpen	Postponed from 2020 Belgian National Philatelic Exhibition
25-30 August	Philanippon 2021	Tokyo	World specialized exhibition, FIP Patronage
24-26 September	ÖVEBRIA 2021	St. Pölten	Multinational
24-26 September	Multilaterale 2021	St. Pölten	Multinational (Austria, Germany, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Slovenia and Switzerland), Luxembourg. FEPA Recognition
29 September-4 October	Balkanfila 2021	Bucharest	Postponed from 2020 Multinational Balkan countries + Egypt + Israel, FEPA Recognition
9-11 November	South Africa 2021	Cape Town	World specialized exhibition, FIP Patronage. Postponed from March 17-20, 2021
19-22 November	Notos 2021	Athens	European with FEPA Patronage
2022			
19-26 February	LONDON 2022	London	World Exhibition, FIP Patronage, FEPA Recognition
March 31-April 3	HUNFILEX 2022	Cape Town	World specialized exhibition, FIP Patronage. Postponed from March 17-20, 2021
28-22 May	HELVETIA 2022	Lugano	Specialised World exhibition. FEPA Recognition
9-12 June	CAPEX 2022	Toronto	Continental exhibition, FIAF International, FIP Recognition

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Christoph Gärtner

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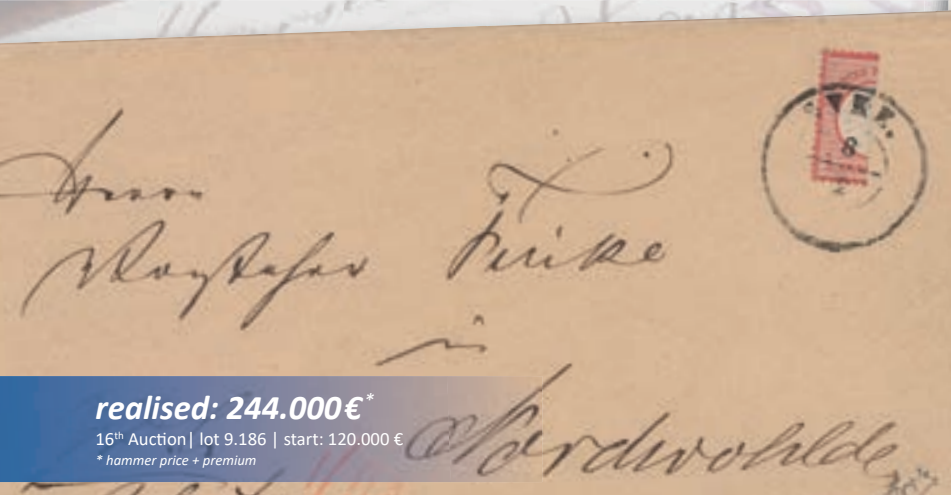
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