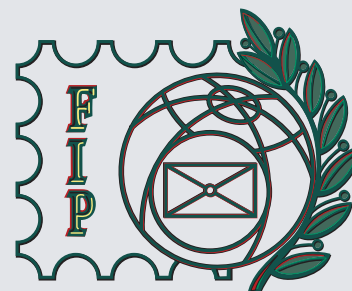


# Flash

Fédération Internationale de Philatélie



*International Jury team and FIP Board Members (top) and Commissioners for EIRO 2024 (bottom). Photo Courtesy of FFR.*

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*The 172<sup>nd</sup> FIP Board meeting of the FIP Board of Directors in Bucharest, Romania on 20 April 2024. f.l. Vice-President Nathaniel, Vice-President Tan, Director Samamé, President Chirakiti, Vice-President Macedo, Director Suhadolc and Director Khoory.*

<b>Editorial</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>The President's Page</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>The FIP</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>The FIP Brand</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>FIP Jury</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>The FIP Commissions</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>The Exhibitions</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Philatelic Articles</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Member Federations</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Associate Members</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Responsibilities</b>	<b>36</b>

## Editorial

Dear readers,

A new issue of our FLASH, the second of this year, is here for you to read.

This issue, somehow delayed due to FIP preparations for the December congress, has anyway a rich content. We begin with the summary of the meetings of the FIP Board of Directors, from January to July, and highlighting the decisions adopted in them.

EFIRO 2024 has been our only exhibition with FIP Patronage this year, during which many activities have been carried out. A report for each one of them is presented in this issue. The report of the exhibition has been written by the Romanian Federation President, Arch. Ion Chirescu. The ninth FIP Jury Academy held in Bucharest, a few days prior to EFIRO, was another successful event in this juror training series. The Round Table convened by the FIP Board of Directors during EFIRO 2024, where several topics of interest presented by the members of the FIP Board of Directors, were discussed, is briefly summarized. In addition, during the EFIRO 2024 Palmares Dinner, the Medal of Appreciation was presented to four FIP Jurors for their invaluable work throughout their years of service. Our sincere congratulations to all of them!

The organizers of two International Exhibitions, Mare Balticum 2024 – an exhibition under FIP Sponsorship - and EPAEX DUBAI 2024, have sent us their reports, published here for your information.

FLASH contains even more information and news, such as the logo to use for the FIP Centennial and the new differentiated logos to be used in exhibitions with FIP Sponsorship, Recognition or Patronage.

Do enjoy this issue, and as always, we are open to your comments and information.

**Aldo Samamé y Samamé / Peter Suhadolc**  
FLASH Co-Editors

## Editorial

Queridos lectores,

Un nuevo número de nuestro FLASH, el segundo número de este año, está aquí para ustedes.

Este número, algo atrasado debido a los preparativos para el Congreso de este año, tiene de todos modos mucho contenido. Empezamos con el resumen de las reuniones del Consejo Directivo FIP, de enero a julio, y resaltando las decisiones adoptadas en ellas.

EFIRO 2024 ha sido nuestra única exposición con Patrocinio FIP del año, durante la misma se han realizado muchas actividades. Un reporte de cada una de ellas se presenta en esta edición. El reporte de la exposición ha sido escrito por el presidente de la Federación Rumana, Arq. Ion Chirescu. La novena Academia de Jurados FIP realizada en Bucarest unos días antes a EFIRO fue otro exitoso evento de esta serie de formación de jurados. La Mesa Redonda convocada por el Consejo Directivo FIP durante EFIRO 2024 en donde se trataron varios temas de interés que fueron presentados por los miembros del Consejo Directivo FIP, cuenta con un resumen en esta edición. Además, durante la Cena de Palmarés de EFIRO 2024 se presentaron las Medallas de Apreciación a cuatro Jurados FIP por su invaluable trabajo a lo largo de sus años de servicio, ¡nuestras sinceras felicitaciones a ellos!

Los organizadores de las exposiciones internacionales Mare Balticum 2024 -exposición con Auspicio FIP- y EPAEX DUBAI 2024 nos han enviado el reporte de sus eventos, que también publicamos en esta edición.

FLASH tiene más información y novedades, como el logotipo a usar para nuestro Centenario y los nuevos logotipos diferenciados para uso de las exposiciones con Patrocinio, Reconocimiento o Auspicio FIP.

Disfruten de este número, y como siempre, quedamos abiertos a recibir sus comentarios e información.

**Aldo Samamé y Samamé / Peter Suhadolc**  
Co-Editores FLASH



Congratulations to the EFIRO 2024 Organising Committee, their staff and volunteers for their relentless efforts in making the Exhibition come true despite so many challenges. My heartiest congratulations also to all the Exhibitors on your medal awards received for your marvellous exhibits shown.

On behalf of FIP Board of Directors, I would like to thank all exhibitors for your active participation; the Commissioners for bringing the Exhibits; the International Jury team for the hard work in judging; dealers for bringing the wonderful materials for philatelists and collectors, as well as visitors for their support in making EFIRO 2024 such a huge success.

During the Palmares of EFIRO 2024, FIP awarded the “Medal of Appreciation” to Reinaldo Macedo (Brazil); Koichi Sato (Japan); Eddie Leibu (Israel) and Eliahu Weber (Israel) as FIP accredited Jurors with exceptional Jury Service.

The 77<sup>th</sup> FIP Congress was originally planned for PHILAKOREA 2024 in August 2024 but unfortunately the exhibition has to be postponed to 2025. Hence, the Congress shall be held in conjunction with CHINA 2024 the 40<sup>th</sup> Asian International Exhibition with FIP Recognition in Shanghai on December 3, 2024, as this is the next most feasible exhibition to congregate as many delegates as possible. As this Congress would not be held together with any FIP Patronage Exhibition as usual, the FIP Board had offered a two nights hotel accommodation to the voting delegate of each FIP Member attending the Congress. The CHINA 2024 Organising Committee had kindly offered airport transfers between Pudong Airport and the official hotel as well as offered a Palmares ticket to the 77<sup>th</sup> FIP Congress voting delegate.

The Board has worked on and approved proposed changes to the Jury and Commissions' guidelines. The latter shall first be circulated to the FIP Commissions for their comments. After which FIP shall send the two updated documents to all Members and to be published on the FIP website or in an additional FLASH issue for 2024 prior to the Congress.

We are happy to inform that a second Continental Jury Training class will also be held in Shanghai on November 26 - 27, 2024.

The next upcoming FIP Patronage Exhibition will be URUGUAY 2025 Specialised World Stamp Exhibition to be held in Punta del Este during February 17-22, 2025. PHILAKOREA 2025 Specialised World Stamp Exhibition shall be held in September 17-21, 2025. We hope that Members will kindly support them by participating in their Exhibition.

FIP is happy to continue supporting regional Exhibitions, one from each continent every year, under the FIP Sponsorship scheme. For the European continent in 2024, the Board had approved the sponsorship of MARE BALTICUM 2024 held from 26-28 July 2024 in Tartu, Estonia; the FIVE-NATIONS EXHIBITION in Hanoi, Vietnam from 10-12 October 2024 and BUENOS AIRES 2024 in Buenos Aires in Argentina from 21-26 October 2024. In addition, the FIP Board also supports the BALKANFILA XX in Athens, Greece from 13-16 November 2024 for partial sponsorship for 2024.

We appreciate your comments, suggestions and feedback on how to promote our beloved hobby.

With Best Wishes,

**Prakob Chirakiti**  
on behalf of the FIP Board of Directors



Felicitaciones al Comité Organizador de EFIRO 2024, a su personal y voluntarios por sus incansables esfuerzos para hacer realidad la Exposición a pesar de tantos desafíos. Mis más sinceras felicitaciones también a todos los expositores por las medallas recibidas por las maravillosas exposiciones presentadas.

En nombre del Consejo Directivo FIP, me gustaría agradecer a todos los expositores por su activa participación; a los Comisionados por trasladar las participaciones; al Jurado Internacional por el arduo trabajo al juzgar; a los comerciantes por traer maravillosos materiales para filatelistas y coleccionistas, así como a los visitantes por su apoyo para hacer de EFIRO 2024 un gran éxito.

Durante la Cena de Palmares de EFIRO 2024, la FIP entregó la Medalla del Reconocimiento a Reinaldo Macedo (Brasil); Koichi Sato (Japón); Eddie Leibur (Israel) y Eliahu Weber (Israel) como jurados acreditados por la FIP con un servicio de jurado excepcional.

El 77° Congreso FIP, que estaba previsto originalmente para PHILAKOREA 2024 en agosto de 2024, pero esta exposición tuvo que posponerse hasta el 2025. Por lo tanto, el Congreso se celebrará durante CHINA 2024, la 40ª Exposición Internacional Asiática con Reconocimiento FIP, en Shanghai el 3 de diciembre 2024, ya que esta es la siguiente exposición más factible para congregar a tantos delegados como sea posible. Como este Congreso no se celebrará junto a alguna Exposición con Patrocinio FIP como es habitual, el Consejo Directivo FIP ofrece el alojamiento por dos noches al delegado votante de cada Miembro FIP que asista al Congreso. El Comité Organizador de CHINA 2024 amablemente ofrece traslados entre el aeropuerto de Pudong y el hotel oficial, así como una entrada a la Cena de Palmares al delegado votante del 77° Congreso FIP.

El Consejo Directivo ha trabajado y aprobado los cambios propuestos a las Guías para Jurados y Comisiones. Este último se distribuirá primero a las Comisiones de la FIP para sus comentarios. Luego de lo cual se enviará los dos documentos actualizados a todos los miembros y se publicarán en la web de la FIP o en una edición adicional de FLASH antes del Congreso.

Nos complace informar que la segunda Clase Continental de Entrenamiento de Jurados se llevará a cabo en Shanghai del 26 al 27 de noviembre de 2024.

La próxima Exposición con Patrocinio FIP será la Exposición Mundial Especializada URUGUAY 2025, que se llevará a cabo en Punta del Este del 17 al 22 de febrero de 2025. La Exposición Mundial Especializada PHILAKOREA 2025 se llevará a cabo del 17 al 21 de septiembre de 2025. Esperamos que los miembros tengan la amabilidad de apoyarlos participando en sus exposiciones.

La FIP se complace en continuar apoyando las Exposiciones regionales, una de cada continente cada año, bajo el esquema de Auspicio FIP. Para el continente europeo en 2024, el Consejo Directivo aprobó el patrocinio de MARE BALTICUM 2024 celebrado del 26 al 28 de julio de 2024 en Tartu, Estonia; la Exposición de las Cinco Naciones en Hanoi, Vietnam, del 10 al 12 de octubre de 2024 y Buenos Aires 2024 en Buenos Aires, Argentina, del 21 al 26 de octubre de 2024. Además, la Junta de la FIP también apoya la BALKANFILA XX en Atenas, Grecia, del 13 al 16 noviembre de 2024 para auspicio parcial.

Agradecemos sus comentarios, sugerencias y opiniones sobre cómo promover nuestro querido hobby.

Con los mejores deseos,

**Prakob Chirakiti**  
en nombre de la Junta Directiva de la FIP

## Highlights of the 168<sup>th</sup> FIP Board of Directors Conference Meeting on 9 January 2024

### FINANCE

#### FIP CENTENARY

FIP Vice-President Tan proposed to the Board on a provision for the Marketing expenses in celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of FIP which the Board approved.

#### FIP SUPPORT FOR MEMBERS

The Board members unanimously agreed to the proposed budget and 10% discount for Members in 2024.

#### PROVISIONAL NEW MEMBERSHIP TIER TO FIP MEMBERS WITH SMALLER NUMBER OF QUALIFIED EXHIBITS

President Chirakiti proposed a provisional new subsidised tier of 400 CHF to help Federations with 5 exhibitors (or less), with voting rights, subjected to official Congress approval. This rate should be effective from 2024 onwards. The current lowest membership tier of 625 CHF was based on 0-10 Vermeil and above exhibits. The terms and conditions would be worked out for approval by the Board before sending to all FIP Members.

### EXHIBITIONS

#### EFIRO 2024

The FIP Vice-President Nathaniel reported that there were 2550 frames of submitted exhibits from 64 countries showing 548 exhibits. Frame fees had started to be received by the Organising Committee (OC). There shall be no GPC display at EFIRO 2024. The reimbursement amount to be given for the international jury team had also been decided by the OC.

#### CHINA 2024 (FIP Recognition)

President Chirakiti updated that CHINA 2024 had sent in the request for FIP Recognition. The Board members approved the Recognition request unanimously and appointed President Chirakiti be the FIP liaison officer.

#### PHILAKOREA 2025

Vice-President Tan updated that the exhibition had been officially postponed to 2025 and there were no further updates. There were no changes in the nominated jurors and Commissioners as the moment.

#### PRAGA 2028

The Board members approved the provisional Patronage for the exhibition and also Vice-President Nathaniel as the FIP Consultant and Director Suhadolc as Assistant Consultant.

### 77<sup>th</sup> FIP CONGRESS

In view of the postponement of PHILAKOREA 2024 FIP World Stamp Exhibition, CHINA 2024 was the next largest exhibition in 2024. President Chirakiti reported that All-China Philatelic Federation had kindly offered that if FIP would like to hold the 77<sup>th</sup> FIP Congress in China, they can provide the venue, lunch & dinner as well as transportation arrangements for the delegates. The Board members approved unanimously for the Congress to be held on the last day of the exhibition in Shanghai on 3 December 2024.



## Highlights of the 169<sup>th</sup> FIP Board of Directors Conference Meeting on 1 February 2024

### EXHIBITIONS

#### **EFIRO 2024**

The FIP Consultant discussed with the FIP Board about the international jury team and the need to help solve the issue of limited number of jurors that could be invited by the Organising Committee, but at the same time there were more classes of exhibits than initially advised by FIP. The timetable was also discussed and the Organising Committee should take note that any dismantling should only be done after an exhibition closes. The FIP Qualifying Seminars versus General Lectures were also discussed and to be confirmed with the respective Commissions.

It was agreed that the deadline for registration for Class #9 of the Jury Academy to be extended for another week until 8 February 2024, and the Class shall proceed if a minimum number of 16 qualified participants were registered with FIP.

---

## Highlights of the 170<sup>th</sup> FIP Board of Directors Conference Meeting on 27 February 2024

### EXHIBITIONS

#### **EFIRO 2024**

The FIP Consultant updated that he had visited the actual exhibition site, Palmares dinner venue and the official hotels for the Jurors and Commissioners.

#### **URUGUAY 2025**

The FIP Vice-President Macedo updated that the Federación Uruguaya de Filatelia would like to apply for FIP Patronage for a Specialised World Stamp Exhibition from 17- 22 February 2025. The official letter shall be sent to FIP soon so that Provisional Patronage could be approved.

### JURY

#### **JURY ACADEMY CLASS #9**

The FIP Jury Academy Class #9 had been confirmed and Director Suhadolc updated that main trainer was himself and co-trainer was Dr Andrew Cheung from Hong Kong. Ed Kroft from Canada was approved by the Board to be the apprentice trainer. Director Samame shall also arrive one day earlier as the FIP Board member in charge to assist in the preparations where necessary.

### FIP CENTENARY

#### **OFFICIAL LOGO**

FIP Vice-President Tan presented the two proposals of the Centenary logo for the Board members' consideration.

### 77<sup>th</sup> FIP CONGRESS

The FIP President would like the Board to consider having a physical meeting in Tartu, Estonia during the MARE BALTICUM 2024 regional exhibition under FIP Sponsorship that would be held from 26-28 July 2024, to support the exhibition and to also meet in-person to approve the final Congress documents.



## Highlights of the 171<sup>st</sup> FIP Board of Directors Conference Meeting on 26 March 2024

### FINANCE

#### FIP SUPPORT FOR MEMBERS

The FIP Board members approved the applications from a few more Members that met the terms and conditions of the provisional 400 CHF tier and the Secretary General shall reply to these Members.

#### FIP SPONSORSHIP

The FIP Board members approved the FIP Sponsorship application for the Five-Nations regional exhibition by the Vietnam Philatelic Association and Vice-President Tan was appointed as the FIP representative. The FIP Sponsorship application for Buenos Aires 2024 by the Federación Argentina de Entidades Filatelicas was also approved and Director Samamé was appointed the FIP representative. The third FIP Sponsorship for year 2024 had been awarded earlier to MARE BALTICUM 2024 to be held in Tartu, Estonia in July 2024, overseen by FIP Representative Director Suhadolc.

There was a fourth application but every year the budget of FIP has been allocated to support only three exhibitions, preferably, one from each continent. It was decided and approved by the FIP Board that an unprecedented 2,500 USD shall be provided to Hellenic Philatelic Federation as a special gesture of support, and Director Suhadolc shall be the FIP Representative for the exhibition.

#### FIP ROUNDTABLE

Despite the very tight schedule for EFIRO 2024, President Chirakiti, FIP Consultant Nathaniel and the Board members decided to hold the first FIP Roundtable during the exhibition to meet up with all stakeholders and to listen to their feedback. FIP would prepare a set of presentation slides to answer common questions regarding the FIP, Jury and World Stamp Exhibitions. For example, the Board shall address how the international jury teams were selected; requirements for the FIP Jury Academy; significance of FIP Patronage; how FIP had been supporting Members in recent years as well as to hear the thoughts and feedback from the attendees. The FIP Consultant shall arrange a timeslot and venue with the EFIRO 2024 Organising Committee.

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## Highlights of the 172<sup>nd</sup> FIP Board of Directors Meeting on 20 April 2024 at the Union Plaza Hotel, Bucharest in Romania

### EXHIBITIONS

#### EFIRO 2024

#### Approval of Jury Apprentices, Cross Accreditation jurors, Apprentice Team Leaders and Assistant Jury Secretary

The Board approved the following apprentice jurors:

##### Apprentice Jurors

Jan Huys	Liechtenstein	Traditional
Bandry Pascal*	France	Maximaphily

\*To be assigned as FIP full juror in Maximaphily class once he completes the upcoming FIP Qualifying Seminar.

##### Cross-Accreditation Juror

Akthem Al Manaseer	USA	Literature
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The Board approved the cross-accreditation of the above juror.

**Apprentice Team-Leaders**

Roger Tan	Singapore	Thematic
Richard Tan	Singapore	Traditional

The Board approved the apprenticeship of the above jurors as team leaders.

**Apprentice Jury Secretary**

Prakit Foongvanich	Thailand
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The Board approved the apprenticeship of the above juror as Jury Secretary.

**URUGUAY 2025**

The FIP Patronage agreement between FIP and the Exhibition Management had been signed, as represented by the FIP Consultant Reinaldo Macedo.

**BELGRADE 2027**

The FIP Board members approved the provisional Patronage to this exhibition and Director Suhadolc as FIP Consultant. Vice-President Nathaniel shall be the Assistant Consultant.

**GREX**

The proposed updates to the FIP GREX were discussed and agreed upon by the FIP Board members and the Secretary General shall include these changes into a 3-column format to reflect the changes more clearly, as part of the 77th FIP Congress documents, for the Members' approval.

**COMMISSIONS****UPDATES TO COMMISSIONS' GUIDELINES**

The Board members agreed on the proposed updates to the Commissions' Guidelines which shall be finalized and approved in the next meeting and sent to the Commissions for their comments.

**FIP ROUNDTABLE**

The Board members discussed about the takeaway and learnings from the first Roundtable and actionable items that could be implemented and to be followed up in coming months.

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## Highlights of the 173<sup>rd</sup> FIP Board of Directors Conference Meeting on 10 June 2024

**FIP SPONSORSHIP**

The FIP Board decided that FIP should announce to all Members that applications for FIP Sponsorship for 2025 should reach FIP by end of August 2024.

**COMMISSIONS****OPEN PHILATELY**

Director Suhadolc circulated the proposed SREVs and Guidelines for the Open Philately Commission to the FIP Board for their perusal and the FIP President and Board members gave their respective comments for the Open Philately Working Group's review.

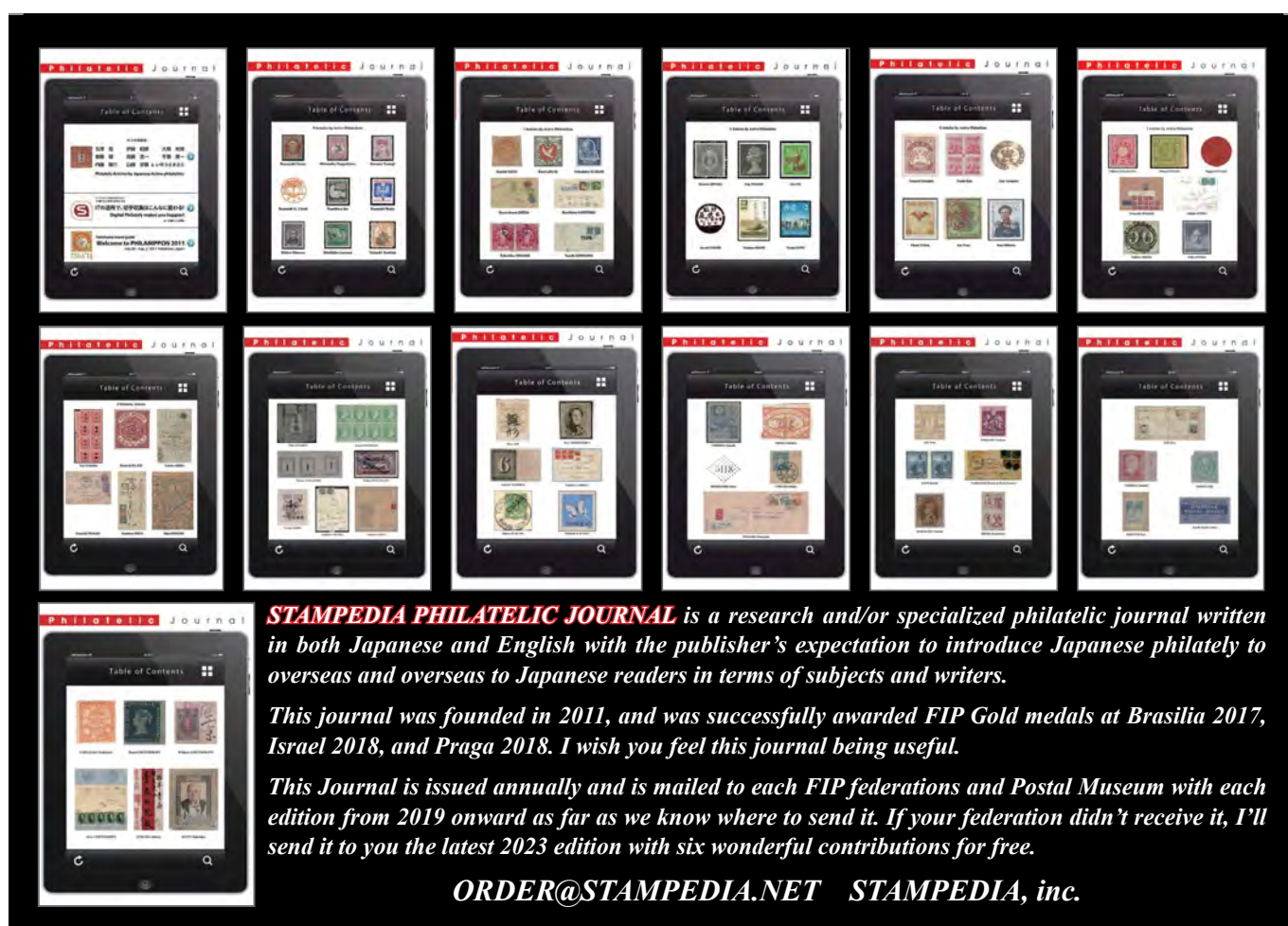
## FIP LOGOS

The official logos for FIP Patronage, FIP Recognition and FIP Sponsorship had been approved by the Board and shall be used by future exhibition management for the respective exhibitions.

The FIP Centenary logo shall be further edited for review by the Board in the next meeting.

## 77<sup>th</sup> FIP CONGRESS

The room dates at the official hotel The Portman Ritz Carlton for the 77<sup>th</sup> FIP Congress in Shanghai was approved by the Board and the contract shall be signed so that FIP can proceed with the reservation of two room nights from 2 – 4 December 2024, for the voting delegates who are attending the Congress on 3 December 2024.



**STAMPEDIA PHILATELIC JOURNAL** is a research and/or specialized philatelic journal written in both Japanese and English with the publisher's expectation to introduce Japanese philately to overseas and overseas to Japanese readers in terms of subjects and writers.

This journal was founded in 2011, and was successfully awarded FIP Gold medals at Brasilia 2017, Israel 2018, and Praga 2018. I wish you feel this journal being useful.

This Journal is issued annually and is mailed to each FIP federations and Postal Museum with each edition from 2019 onward as far as we know where to send it. If your federation didn't receive it, I'll send it to you the latest 2023 edition with six wonderful contributions for free.

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## Highlights of the 174<sup>th</sup> FIP Board of Directors Meeting on 29 July 2024 at Lydia Hotel, Tartu, Estonia

### 77<sup>th</sup> FIP CONGRESS

The Congress papers had been compiled by the Secretary General and the FIP President went through each agenda items with the corresponding documents as well as the advice by FIP legal advisor with the Board members. The approved papers shall be sent to all Member Federations by 2 September 2024.





*The 174<sup>th</sup> FIP Board meeting of the FIP Board of Directors in Tartu, Estonia on 29 July 2024. Online f.l. Vice-President Tan and Director Khoory; Vice-President Macedo (absent from photo) joined the meeting later. In person f.l. Vice-President Nathaniel; Director Suhadolc, President Chirakiti, and Director Samamé.*

## EXHIBITIONS URUGUAY 2025

Vice-President Macedo updated the Board on the updates of the exhibition and the list of juror nominations from members federations had been compiled. There shall be two judging shifts for the exhibition. 60 member federations had nominated commissioners.

## BOSTON 2026

The FIP Recognition agreement had been signed and Vice-President Macedo reported that the IREX was in progress.

## COMMISSIONS

The proposed updates to the Commissions Guidelines had been reviewed again and approved by the Board. These changes shall be sent to the Commissions for their review and feedback, if any.

## JURY

The proposed updates to the Jury Guidelines were discussed and reviewed. The approved document shall be updated on the FIP website or published in the next FLASH to inform all Members.

## FIP CENTENARY LOGO

The physical print outs of the FIP Centenary logos in CMYK and hot stamping were prepared by Vice-President Tan and presented to the Board by the Secretary General during the meeting. It was agreed that the last amended version shall be used and the terms and conditions of use shall be drafted by the Secretary General for the Board's approval and then sent with the logo artwork and guidelines to all FIP Members.

## FIP CENTENARY BOOK

PC proposed that a working group be formed for the planning of the FIP Centenary Book. The preliminary structure, contents and schedule of work shall be drafted by the Secretary General to be reported to the Board in the next meeting.

## FIP Roundtable at the Museum of Romanian Records in Bucharest on 19 April 2024

In order to create the opportunity to communicate with all stakeholders and be more transparent on the works of the FIP, the FIP Board planned for the first FIP Roundtable in Bucharest and it was opened to anyone who was keen to attend and express what they wish to say to the Board. The session was kindly facilitated by Mr Colin Fraser from the United States who was present at the exhibition and agreed to host the session as a neutral party at short notice.



*Facilitation of the Roundtable by Colin Fraser (bottom front) and welcome speech by the FIP President Chirakiti (fourth from left).*

Following the welcome message by FIP President Chirakiti, the presentation by the FIP Board was divided into four parts:

### Part 1: FIP Support for Global Philately

This was presented by FIP Vice-President Tan, also the Treasurer for FIP and he updated regarding the FIP Budget provisions to support worldwide philately:

#### 1. Sponsorship for Hosting Regional Exhibitions

FIP allocated **USD 5,000** to sponsor philatelic exhibitions organised by FIP Members across the three continents. These events serve as vibrant platforms for collectors in nearby countries to interact, improve the abilities of the organising committees to host exhibitions and to showcase and elevate the standards of national-level exhibits to higher levels. Since 2018, FIP has sponsored 17 Members for 17 regional exhibitions.

#### 2. Organising FIP Jury Academy

FIP's commitment to nurturing expertise led to an allocation of up to **USD 10,000** for each of the **FIP Jury Academy Class**. The Academy trains and upgrades FIP jurors who play a pivotal role in assessing exhibit items during competitions. 9 classes had been held since 2018 and 142 Jury fellows have graduated as at April 2024.

#### 3. FIP Support for Continental Jury Training

Recognizing the importance of regional expertise, FIP extended support to **continental jury trainings**. These academies ensure consistent evaluation practices across different parts of the world.

FIP had budgeted provisions for three applications annually starting from 2024, of up to USD5,000 per FIP Continental Jury Academy held in Americas, Europe, and Asia, pro-rated based on the class size – recommended at 16 pax per Class. Support of up to USD 15,000 per calendar year shall be provided.

#### 4. Discounts on FIP Subscription fees & no Increase in Tiers

- FIP provided unprecedented discounts since COVID 19, yearly over the last few years, approved by the Congress to help philatelic organizations worldwide. Each member federation enjoys a discount of 10% in 2024.
- The Board created a trial tier of **400 CHF** in 2024 to support Members with less than 5 FIP Exhibitors and less than 10 Vermeil and above exhibits, to be approved at the 77th FIP Congress
- There had been no increase in fees since 2018, even if Members have increased their number of exhibits.
- Year 2023 saved by Members was 11,185 CHF
- Year 2024 saved by Members more than 11,185 CHF (applications for 400 CHF rate in progress)

#### 5. FIP Support for Commissions' Websites

FIP had taken over all the hosting and web maintenance costs for all 13 FIP Commissions to support them in their work since 2021 and zoom trainings have been conducted with FIP's web agency for the Commissions to learn how to maximise the tools in their web platform.

#### 6. FIP Centenary Celebration

FIP had been working on the Centenary logo for Members' and Postal Administration's use from 2024 – 2026 and provisions had been made for the marketing and educational activities to be planned in conjunction with the Centenary Celebration.

### Part 2: The FIP

FIP Vice-President Nathaniel presented that as a world body, FIP's role is to bring together all the Member Federations and regulates world-scale philatelic exhibition with clear rules to ensure fairness and order in a common language. The FIP records all the past FIP Patronage World Stamp Exhibitions awards and upkeeps it, renewing it for Member Federations annually. FIP keeps track of all juror accreditation at World Level.

### Part 3: The Jury

FIP Director Samamé explained in details how the International Jury Teams are selected for each FIP Patronage exhibitions in accordance with the FIP Statutes. 50% of those nominated by the national federations – it is responsibility of the national federations to rotate their jurors' names for the nomination list; 25% by the organizing country and 25% by FIP.

### Part 4: The Exhibitions

In response to a comment by some Members that the high cost of the FIP patronage was an obstacle for many World Stamp Exhibitions, Vice-President Macedo highlighted that on average the total costs of a General World Stamp Exhibition in Europe would be 1.5 million CHF. Putting into perspective, the patronage fee of 66,000 CHF then is only a small percentage (4.4%) of the entire costs of an exhibition.

There are also smaller-scale FIP Specialised World Stamp Exhibitions with or without World Stamp Championship Class at lower fees of 44,000 CHF or 33,000 CHF respectively, which can be held. The Patronage fees and description of each type of exhibition is transparent and can be found on the FIP website.

As FIP World Stamp Exhibitions are regarded as the "World Cup" or "Olympics" of philately and hence a certain level of Patronage fee is upheld for the level of prestige of the awards received by the exhibitors.

With regards to the frame fees charged by the Organising Committees (OC), it was also clarified that the frame fee costs were **not** set by FIP but determined by each OC depending on their budget, the costs rental of the exhibition venue and the costs to rent or fabricate the frames.

### Open Discussions

There were other discussions from the floor regarding One Frame Exhibits, for example, it had initially started as a preliminary step to encourage exhibitors to participate in organized philately, but it has now evolved to be only for subjects that could only fit into one frame. There are increasing OFE exhibitors in the North Americas at the national level due to cost, ability & time considerations.





*Attendees from various Member Federations at the first FIP Roundtable on 19 April 2024 who were actively involved in the discussions.*

The pros and cons of virtual exhibitions were also discussed – problems included having to verify with exhibitors on whether the exhibit items were real as commented by Joof van der Merwe from South Africa. Ed Kroft from Canada commented that there was now a movement towards virtual exhibitions in the North America as some exhibitors like to save transport cost. It might work for national-scale exhibitions but could be difficult for exhibitions of high level to show their exhibits virtually, as it would be important to know whether the good exhibits have genuine materials. He commented that FIP should be careful not to water-down the brand of FIP and should preserve its elite status as providing Patronage for world-level exhibitions so that worldwide exhibitors could aspire to become FIP exhibitors.

Dr Claudio Manzati from Italy commented that he had just participated in Class #9 of the Jury Academy and he was very happy that the contents were excellent and well-organized. He commented whether it be possible that only the best exhibits per class are invited to be exhibited in exhibitions, the entry level exhibits could be virtual to reduce cost on frames? Mr Fraser and Mr Christos Gikas (Greece) noted that the costs of stamp exhibitions have become a concern, especially now that many Postal Administrations had been privatized. New ideas need to be come up with to finance future exhibitions.

Mr Ari Muhonen from Finland reported that the Federation just had a National exhibition and 40% were new exhibits, the reason for this was that the exhibition allowed 1-4 frames. He would like to see FIP exhibitions in new locations for example, in the South Americas.

Dr Chen Wen Siang from Chinese Taipei commented that Member Federations have the responsibility to educate exhibitors about FIP-level exhibitions. For the case of the Chinese Taipei Philatelic Federation, they conduct different webinars of the different classes by senior philatelists on exhibiting according to FIP rules.

Ideas were thrown on how FIP can increase awareness about its work and its outreach to promote philately including hosting more online Philatelic Seminars or uploading videos by Commissions onto FIP Youtube channel; start FIP mailing list to update on philatelic events and FIP exhibitions; arranging for FIP-level jurors to support local exhibitions. The FIP Board shall review and discuss further regarding what could be implemented as soon as possible.

The slides prepared for the roundtable had been posted on the FIP website homepage on 19 April 2024 and is still available for downloading. The FIP Board members would like to thank the EFIRO 2024 Organising Committee for hosting the session at Museum of Romanian Records and also all attendees for taking time to participate in the roundtable and making it a fruitful debut session!

## THE FIP BRAND

One of the irreplaceable roles of FIP in promoting Worldwide Philately is by giving **FIP Patronage** for World Stamp Exhibitions (WSE), which are either **General World Stamp Exhibitions (GWSE)** or **Specialised World Stamp Exhibitions (SWSE)**. In 2004, the **Specialised World Stamp Championship Exhibition** was also first held in Singapore. FIP Patronage World Stamp Exhibitions are equivalent to the “World Cup” of philately and only awards received in FIP Patronage exhibitions are recognized worldwide.

International or continental stamp exhibitions can also apply for **FIP Recognition**. The various types of FIP Exhibitions can be found on the FIP website whereby the different types of exhibitions are clarified.

Since 2018, FIP has also supported numerous regional exhibitions through the **FIP Sponsorship** programme to encourage Members to host smaller-scale philatelic exhibitions which enables more exhibitors to be involved in Philately and in turn given them the confidence and opportunity to gradually improve their exhibits to world level.

## EXHIBITION LOGOS

The respective Guidelines and latest official FIP logos with standardised wordings to differentiate the different types of FIP Exhibitions had been finalised and approved by the FIP Board during the 173rd FIP Board meeting on 10 June 2024.



The Guidelines will be sent by the FIP Secretariat to the various Organising Committees and the logos shall have to be used for the exhibition collaterals or publicity materials for example, catalogue, banners, Palmares booklet etc.

## FIP CENTENARY LOGO

FIP is pleased to release the official FIP Centenary logo for Members and the respective Postal Administrations' use from now leading up to 2026, during which FIP shall celebrate its 100th anniversary.

Members and Postal Administrations can leverage on the logo to make special souvenir sheets or commemorative stamps to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of FIP. If your Federation would like to use the logo, please take note of the following terms and conditions:

1. The official guidelines for use must be followed
2. The final artwork of any special souvenir sheets or commemorative stamps must be sent to FIP via [kelly@f-i-p.ch](mailto:kelly@f-i-p.ch) for FIP Board approval before print
3. 100 sets of the special souvenir sheets or commemorative stamps are requested to be mailed to FIP Singapore office or to be given by hand to the FIP Secretariat or one of the Board members – these different stamp sheets or commemorative stamps contributed by each Member shall be compiled by FIP and these multi-nation sets shall be re-distributed in 2026 to Members who had contributed.

The detailed guidelines are as follows:

MASTER LOGO



Minimum width  
35mm (print)

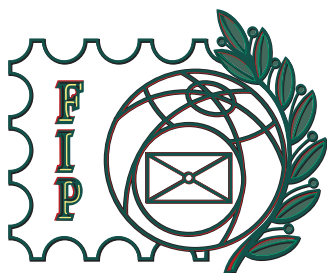


The FIP "Fédération Internationale de Philatélie"  
Centenary Logo  
QUICK BRAND GUIDE



Logo needs to be placed on a **clear background** to ensure maximum impact and clarity

PRIMARY COLOURS



**FIP GREEN LOGO**  
CMYK 100,70,80,10  
SPOT PANTONE 3305  
RGB 0,77,68

**FIP RED LOGO**  
CMYK 18,100,100,10  
SPOT PANTONE 1797  
RGB 201,40,45

**FIP YELLOW LOGO**  
CMYK 0,0,60,5  
SPOT PANTONE 100  
RGB 243,235,123

**100 YEARS RED LOGO**  
CMYK 16,100,86,0  
SPOT PANTONE 200  
RGB 193,2,48

GOLD HOTSTAMPING

Foil Part No: ITW OSP213



SILVER HOTSTAMPING

Foil Part No: ITW OSP100



RED HOTSTAMPING

Foil Part No: ITW OSP420





## FIP Jury Academy #9 Held in Bucharest 2024

The ninth class of the FIP Jury Academy (JA) was held at the Museum of Romanian Records in Bucharest on April 12 to 14, just before the start of the EFIRO 2024 Exhibition.

Initially EFIRO 2024 exhibition was a FEPA Patronage exhibition with FIP Recognition. It was expected that FEPA would hold a continental jury training there, the second after FIAP held one in Bangkok in 2023. However in mid 2023 the Romanian organizers decided to ask for FIP Patronage, which was granted to EFIRO 2024. At the end of 2023 FEPA also decided not to hold the continental jury training in Bucharest.

The JA Class #9 was supposed to be held at PHILAKOREA 2024. Since the exhibition was postponed to 2025 and after learning that there will be no continental jury training in Bucharest, the FIP Board decided to look for the possibility to have a JA class there. The time to announce it was very short and since the minimum number of attendees for a Class is 16, potential candidates had to be contacted quickly. We finally reached the minimum number after two jurors, who have already applied for the London 2020 classes, wanted to take the opportunity to participate.



*Standing on left was JA trainer FIP Director Suhadolc; seated from the furthest end of the table were apprentice trainer Ed Kroft; FIP Director Samamé; co-trainer Andrew Cheung followed by all the trainees listening intently.*

Due to the short time-frame that this JA Class #9 was planned, most of the JA trainers were also not available. At the end the appointed trainers were Andrew Cheung and Peter Suhadolc, with Ed Kroft as apprentice trainer and the FIP Board appointed observer Aldo Samamé y Samamé.

The trainees were divided into four groups of four trainees. Unfortunately, a few days before the beginning one of the jurors informed us he had to renounce his travel due to illness.

The seminar room and the exhibition frames were provided by the Museum of Romanian Records and the EFIRO 2024 organizers. The frames could be placed in the seminar room, a big auditorium with excellent technical facilities. Coffee and lunch breaks were also offered in the space near the frames.

The FIP Jury Academy class followed the scheme of the previous classes. The only updating was related to the new Guidelines that the various FIP Commissions adopted recently. On the first day the juror and team leader duties and responsibilities were discussed and the FIP regulations reviewed. The day ended with disclosing the titles of the exhibits to be evaluated the next day and some related material to be studied distributed. We finally enjoyed a stroll to an Italian restaurant with great food and pleasant socializing.

The second day was devoted to judging in front of the frames. The judging was done criterium by criterium and the scores registered. The trainers observed how the teams worked, the team leader changing amongst the team members with each scoring criterium. At the end a discussion was held with each team justifying the assigned points. At the end of the day the personal development of each juror was the focus with a self-evaluation, an evaluation from trainers and a personal development plan. The second dinner was held at the Romanian restaurant La Nenea Lancu serving classic Romanian dishes that was again appreciated by everybody, all relaxed at the end of the day.



Participants at the frames with apprentice trainer Ed Kroft (bottom middle) and trainers Andrew Cheung and Peter Suhadolc (top left).



The third and last day was devoted to the most important task of a juror: giving feedback to the exhibitor. After the trainers suggested how the feedback should be given, the teams prepared the feedback to be given and practiced giving the feedback in front of the frames. The teams had a lot of fun mimicking several situations they could face from exhibitors.

The JA ended with the trainees evaluating it and providing some excellent suggestions for future improvements. All the trainers were happy that the JA was positively considered and that even experienced jurors had learned something from it.

*Checking the certificates and jury fellow medals by FIP Director and JA Trainer Peter Suhadolc before the Graduation Dinner.*





*Graduation dinner graced by Chairman of EFIRO 2024 Mr Ion Chirescu (left photo standing on left) and Claes Arrrup from Postiljonen (right photo standing on left), seated with the FIP Board members.*

The Graduation dinner was held in Hotel Union with all trainees and some of their partners attending. The whole FIP Board was also present together with Ion Chirescu, Museum of Romanian Records, and Claes Arrrup, CEO of Postiljonen, that had continuously supported the JA. Every trainee received their well-deserved diploma and Jury Fellow pin.



*Group photo after Graduation Dinner.*

At the end I would like to personally thank fellow Director Aldo Samamé y Samamé, who has efficiently managed the local catering, arranged the three JA dinners and printed and carried from Peru the printed materials for the course. A big ‘Thank you’ is due to Ion Chirescu and Francisc Ambrus for making the seminar room and frames available for free and for the help in mounting and dismounting both the frames and the exhibits.

The venue of the next JA has still not been decided. The two possibilities are URUGUAY 2025 and PHILAKOREA 2025.

**Peter Suhadolc**  
**FIP Director and Jury Academy Trainer**

# International Auction

## 24-27 September



### Highlights:

- "The Beautiful Collection" Sweden 1855-1872, part 2*
- Professor Ringertz, Iceland Official Covers, part 2*
- Orla Nielsen, Iceland, part 2*
- Greenland, extensive specialised collection*
- Ivar Sundsbø, Romania, part 2*
- Paolo Sanguineti, classic Norway*

[www.postiljonen.com](http://www.postiljonen.com)

Visit our website for more information or  
contact us at [stampauctions@postiljonen.se](mailto:stampauctions@postiljonen.se)



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## PRESENTATION OF FIP MEDALS OF EXCEPTIONAL JURY SERVICE AT EFIRO 2024

At the 160th FIP Board meeting in Essen, Germany, the FIP President and Board of Directors decided to recognize FIP jurors who had made exceptional contributions to FIP World Stamp Exhibitions over the years with the FIP Medal of Appreciation for Exceptional Jury Service. Jurors should have fulfilled at least the following criteria:

- at least 12 times as full juror in FIP Patronage World Stamp Exhibitions
- preferably having been a team leader in one of the Classes
- preferably additional service for example, as Jury Secretary, Jury President or member of the Expert group



During the Palmares of EFIRO 2024, FIP Director Suhadolc presented the commendation speech and the following jurors were invited on stage to receive their medals from FIP President Chirakiti:

1. Reinaldo Macedo, Brazil (*top left*)
2. Koichi Sato, Japan (*top right*)
3. Eddie Leibu, Israel (*bottom left*)
4. Eliyahu Weber, Israel (*bottom right*)

Congratulations to the above esteemed jurors.

Member Federations are encouraged to nominate their FIP accredited jurors who are qualified to receive the medal by filling in the nomination form that can be downloaded from the FIP website and submitted to FIP at [kelly@f-i-p.ch](mailto:kelly@f-i-p.ch) for the FIP Board's approval.

## FIP Postal Stationery Commission Meeting and Qualifying Seminar in EFIRO 2024

The Postal Stationery Commission held a combined meeting and FIP Qualifying Seminar at EFIRO 2024 on Friday 19 April. In the first part of the meeting the Commission Secretary, Mike Smith from the United Kingdom, gave an update on the current activities and projects going forward.



*Mike Smith, standing, giving the update on Postal Stationery Commission (photo courtesy of Mike Smith).*

The remainder of the meeting was given up to the Qualifying Seminar, which comprised two presentations. Mike gave the first of these, which was an overview of what should be considered when “Judging Postal Stationery”. This was followed by a comprehensive presentation on “Postal Stationery Treatment” by Commission Bureau Member, Sam Chiu from Canada.



*Dr Sam Chiu, seated most right in front, presented his slides to the attendees (photo courtesy of Mike Smith).*

The seminar was well attended, given clashes with other events, with 17 attendees in addition to the presenters.

**Michael Smith FRPSL**



## EFIRO 2024 Specialized FIP World Stamp Exhibition: A World Prestige Exhibition in Bucharest, A Milestone in World Philately

EFIRO 2024, a FIP Specialized World Stamp Exhibition featuring participation from 63 countries, was held from April 16-19, 2024, at the National Library of Romania. As the sole world-level philatelic exhibition of the year, it was organized by the Romanian Philatelic Federation (FFR) in partnership with the Ministry of Culture, the Romanian Post, Romfilatelia S.A., the Museum of Romanian Records, and the Romanian Remarkable Results Foundation. This event positioned itself as a benchmark in the global philately calendar, showcasing the innovation, tradition, and excellence of stamp collections worldwide. It was held under the patronage of the Romanian Senate, F.I.P. (International Federation of Philately), A.E.P. (European Academy of Philately), A.I.J.P. (International Association of Philatelic Journalists), and was recognized by F.E.P.A. (European Federation of Philatelic Associations).

The exhibition also commemorated several significant anniversaries: 150 years since the establishment of the Universal Postal Union, of which Romania is a founding member, 165 years since the Union of the Romanian Principalities, 160 years since the establishment of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and 145 years of consular activity.

During this world-class event, 554 philatelic exhibits were presented in competition classes by over 400 participants from 63 countries, displayed in 2655 frames over an area exceeding 5000 m<sup>2</sup>. Over 700 elites of world philately gathered in Bucharest for this grand occasion.



*After the ribbon cutting at the Opening Ceremony graced by f.r: Mr Ion Chirescu, President of the FFR; Mr Valentin Stefan, General Director of the Romanian Post and Dr Prakob Chirakiti, FIP President.*

The exhibition was inaugurated with great fanfare on Tuesday, April 16, in the presence of Dr. Prakob Chirakiti, FIP President; Mr. Ion Chirescu, President of the FFR, and Mr. Valentin Stefan, General Director of the Romanian Post, who cut the inaugural ribbon together.

A highlight of EFIRO 2024 was the Second Fiscal Philately Salon, presented in the non-competitive class, along with other exhibits outside the competition and five specialized philatelic seminars. The annual meetings of A.E.P., A.I.E.P., and the A.I.J.P. Congress took place in the Amphitheater of the Museum of Romanian Records.



*Children visiting the exhibition.*



*The dealers' booths at the exhibition venue.*



*The bright and spacious jury room.*

The International Jury team, led by Eliahu Webber (Israel) as Jury President and Prakob Chirakiti (Thailand) as Honorary President, included Sammy G. Chiu (Canada), Turhan Turgut (Turkey), and Abdulia Khoory (United Arab Emirates) as Vice-presidents. Yigal Nathaniel (Israel) was the FIP consultant, Bernard Jimenez (France) served as the Jury Secretary, and Prakit Foongvanich (Thailand) as apprentice Jury Secretary. The Jury awarded 47 Large Gold medals (four to Romanian exhibitors) and 105 Gold medals (ten to Romanian exhibitors). The grand prizes went to Mr. Joseph Hackmey (Grand Prix International awards) and Mr. Ion Chirescu (Grand Prix National award).



*Grand Prix recipients Mr Ion Chirescu winner of GPN (second from left) and Mr Joseph Hackmey, GPI winner (third from left) during the Palmares dinner.*



A superb catalogue, of high quality and artistic value, was made available to visitors.

For a week, the eyes of the world's philatelic elites were focused on Bucharest, firmly establishing EFIRO 2024 as a milestone in the global philately calendar.

During the Palmares night, Mr. Yigal Nathaniel, Mr. Ion Chirescu, Mr. Francisc Ambrus, and Mr. Alexandru Dan Bartoc handed the FIP flag to the organizers of the URUGUAY 2025 exhibition.



*The Organising Committee of EFIRO 2024 handed over the FIP flag to URUGUAY 2025: f.l. FIP Director Aldo Samamé y Samamé; URUGUAY 2025 FIP Consultant Reinaldo Macedo; FIP President Prakob Chirakiti; EFIRO 2024 FIP Consultant Yigal Nathaniel; Ion Chirescu; Francisc Ambrus and Alexandru Dan Bartoc (photo courtesy of Romanian Philatelic Federation).*

### The Role of the Romanian Philatelic Federation

Under the visionary leadership of Arch. Ion Chirescu, President of the Romanian Philatelic Federation, the federation played a pivotal role in organizing EFIRO 2024. His strategic foresight and dedication were instrumental in navigating logistical challenges and securing international acclaim, establishing Bucharest as a premier destination for global philatelists. EFIRO 2024 introduced a new approach to philatelic exhibitions, arranging the frames in a line and grouping them in sets of 8 or 5 frames for easier overall viewing of each exhibit. This arrangement provided a more comprehensive and accessible viewing experience compared to the previous practice of extending exhibits over one, two, or even three rows, which complicated judging and viewing. Additionally, participants had the unique opportunity to visit the Museum of Romanian Records, particularly the philatelic section, which spans over 5000 frame faces. This collection is the largest of philatelic items issued and circulated within the current territory of a single state – in this case, Romania.

### The FIP Jury Academy

The FIP Jury Academy, overseen by Peter Suhadolc (Slovenia), FIP Director and jury member specializing in thematic philately and postal stationery, featured an intensive daily schedule from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The curriculum encompassed three key sections: Preparation, Judging, and Feedback. Andrew Cheung (Hong Kong) was the FIP Trainer assisted by Apprentice Trainer Ed Kroft (Canada), both distinguished FIP jury members.

The Academy's rigorous curriculum comprised 11 comprehensive chapters covering essential topics like Judging Team Leadership, the Judging Criteria, Judging of Exhibits, Giving Feedback to the Exhibitors – Judge and Team Leader, and the Evolution of the FIP Jury Academy. Distinguished participants who became jury fellows were:

- Francisc Ambrus (Romania)
- Roman Andrzej Babut (Poland)
- Alexandru dan Bartoc (Romania)
- Rogerio Dedivitis (Brazil)
- Gian Carlo Caruso (Colombia)
- Eldrup Ebbe (Denmark)
- Holger Rudolf Evers (Germany)
- Seija-Riitta Laakso (Finland)
- Jari Majander (Finland)
- Claudio Manzati (Italy)
- Sebastian Matry (France)
- Emanoil Alexandru Savoiu (Romania)
- George Thomareis (Greece)
- Turgut Turhan (Turkey)
- Jean Voruz (Monaco)

Aldo Samamé y Samamé from Peru, FIP Director arrived earlier to assist with the preparations and to ensure the smooth procedures of the training.

### AIJP Congress and Balkanfila Meeting

On the final day of EFIRO 2024, the Amphitheatre of the Museum of Romanian Records hosted the annual AIJP Congress. This event featured insightful discussions led by Mr. Wolfgang Maassen, President of AIJP, addressing significant issues in literary philately and emphasizing fair evaluation criteria. Additionally, on Friday, April 19th, representatives from seven Balkanfila member federations convened at the Museum of Romanian Records for the Balkanfila Working Group meeting. Igor Pirc, Secretary of Balkanfila, facilitated discussions among participants from Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, and Turkey. Central to the agenda were presentations by Thessaloniki representatives, organizers of the upcoming XX Balkanfila Exhibition scheduled for November 13-16, anticipated to receive FEPA recognition and substantial FIP support.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, EFIRO 2024 not only celebrated Romania's cultural heritage but also set new standards in global philatelic excellence. The event fostered meaningful cultural exchange and collaboration among enthusiasts worldwide, highlighting its role in promoting international goodwill through the passion for stamp collecting.

Reported by Arch. Ion Chirescu, President of the Romanian Philatelic Federation

## CALL FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN FLASH!

We welcome advertisements for each FLASH issue and corresponding online e-FLASH on the FIP website. The advertising charges are as follows:

Specifications	Cost per Issue	Remarks
A5 Landscape Full Colour Advertisement	300 CHF	Every 2 consecutive advertisements, 3 <sup>rd</sup> is Free
A4 Full Colour Advertisement*	500 CHF	Every 2 consecutive advertisements, 3 <sup>rd</sup> is Free
A4 Prime Full Colour Advertisement (Inside front OR back cover)	600 CHF	Every 2 consecutive advertisements, 3 <sup>rd</sup> is Free

\*The FIP Editorial team decides where these advertisements are inserted within each FLASH issue.

Write in to the FIP Secretariat to indicate your interest and to check the schedule of the next FLASH issue. The FIP Editorial team reserves the right to request for amendments to any advertisement artwork if there is/are any inappropriate content(s).

## Philatelic Conservation - A Basic Guide [revised October 2023]

Based on a Paper given at the 87th Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, Derby on 8th July, 2005

by David R Beech MBE FRPSL

### Introduction

Many philatelists understand that they are the guardians of the material in their collections for themselves and for future owners. It is unfortunate when some collectors show a disregard for looking after their collection and dismiss comment with a remark like “it will be OK in my life time”. It is to show that looking after your collection is not a complicated affair that I have written this article. Having said that this is a brief or basic guide only and interested parties seeking more comprehensive information should consult a professional paper conservator preferably with some philatelic background.

The British Library is custodian of national collections of international importance some of which have been in its care for over 270 years. These collections include manuscripts, printed books, archives, sound recordings (in various formats), newspapers, maps, music, etc, in almost all languages, estimated to be more than 150 million items in total; not to mention philatelic material, in all forms, being more than eight million items. During the period, since its formation in 1753, the Library has developed, along with the library, museum, and archive community, policies and practises designed to protect such collections. The curators' job is to understand the issues (including ethical questions of philatelic importance) and work with the conservator, who will have specialist knowledge and practical experience. In 1989 the British Library published the printed book *The Care and Preservation of Philatelic Materials*, written by the late T J Collings, a leading paper conservation expert, and the late R F Schooley-West, FRPSL former Curator of the Philatelic Collections. This title appeared in two editions, one in collaboration with the American Philatelic Society. To break down the subject into manageable portions I have divided it into seven sections which are: Environment, Light, Paper, Gum, Plastics, Physical Issues and Treatments.

### Environment

Philatelic Collections should be stored at a temperature **under 18 centigrade** and with relative humidity of between **55 to 60%**. Research has shown that gummed and perforated material is under less stress at these slightly more moist conditions than had previously been recommended. [A relative humidity of 50 to 55% is recommended for most printed books] Outside these condition collections run the risk of the growth of fungi if too hot and too humid. Remember that one cause of foxing is believed to be dead fungal growth so by avoiding bad conditions you can help to avoid those unsightly stains. If too dry paper suffers stress and with an unused stamp with gum a tension will develop between the gum and the paper. This tension may be sufficient to split perforations. Dampness is probably one of the main dangers to paper and especially to gum. Ventilation of a room or storage container is likely to reduce the level of moisture; some mild and gradual heating may be of assistance in carrying moisture away. Never heat a damp room without adequate ventilation as this may promote fungal growth. Clean air and storage conditions are important too, as pollutants and any infestation of small harmful creatures and insects, that may eat paper, etc, may cause other damage. Smoking is incompatible with philately because of damage from ash, staining and the transfer of smell.

### Light

The best lighting conditions to keep your collection in is complete darkness. We do need to study our material and show it to fellow philatelists and for this we need light; but how much? In simple terms material on exhibition, to meet conservation standards, should be shown in no more than **50 lux**, which is 50 candles worth of light at a distance of one metre. Light contains ultra violet (UV) and a maximum of **10 micro watts per lumen** is advised. It is the duty of all philatelic exhibition organisers to arrange these conditions or get as close to them as may be possible in a temporary exhibition hall or venue. While most organisers will at least avoid direct sun light nearly all fail to come even close to the conservation standard of 50 lux. Clearly it is a difficult and expensive thing to achieve but measures should be taken to reduce levels and the resulting damage. That damage has taken place is clear from the examination of collections that are protected from excessive light and these include the British Library's Philatelic Collections and the Royal Philatelic Collection in London, where the bright and fresh colours of stamps are often remarked upon. One international exhibition held in Europe since 2000 under Federation Internationale de Philatelie (FIP) rules and supervision seemed to have no or little regard for the dangers of light. The exhibition halls had one third glass roofs resulting in high lux and UV levels: as much as 3,395 lux and 479 micro watts per lumen; fading undoubtedly resulted. If FIP supervision of international exhibitions to is have any meaning for the protection of material on show, it must

at least set standards that seek to avoid the worst of the bad conditions. I have previously challenged FIP, and challenge them again now, to do so before it is too late! Old fashioned photocopying of material has had its hazards too in the form of not only light but heat too, the latter causing a stress in the paper. More modern machines and scanning may be much less harmful; further research work here is needed. At the Philatelic Collections office at the British Library all the lights have UV filters as do the windows and material is never exposed to light unnecessarily.

### Paper

Papers are complicated in form and structure. For this basic guide it is perhaps sufficient to say that the best papers have a **pH of between 6.0 and 8.5**. pH is the measure of the extent to which material is acidic or alkaline. It is notable how papers created before the mid-19th Century, when the main constituent was rag, are tough, long lasting with longer paper fibres. Paper which is basically wood pulp, introduced from circa 1850, is often acidic and usually goes brown. Philatelic material may suffer from being acidic and the most obvious examples of this are postal stationery post cards. Many of these are so bad that they probably have a life of only a few years, perhaps in some cases ten to twenty years, after which they may crumple away! The problem can be addressed by deacidifying the item but it is recommended that this be undertaken by a professional conservator. Post cards that have been used with typewriting or manuscript addresses or messages and perhaps with additional adhesives, or labels, will need special care as the process is one where wetting is involved. The deacidification process will help arrest the acid attack at the time of treatment but it will not reverse the browning of the paper. Clearly album pages should be such that they cause no damage to the material mounted on them and so need to be “acid free” and comply to ISO 9706 a standard for permanent paper.

### Gum

As I have indicated gum is often in tension with the paper it is applied to and this can be reduced under the appropriate storage conditions that I give in the Environment section above. If the gum becomes too dry (and especially if it is thickly applied) it may crack and go on to crack or damage the paper of a stamp or cover, etc. The removal of gum is probably in the best interests of stamps in the long term, but further work needs to be carried out as to how this may be achieved with the best results. Removal by water may not be the answer in many cases and inks may be affected. Pressure sensitive adhesives, that is self-adhesives on stamps, are emerging as a major conservation concern. Clear tapes, like Sellotape and other similar products, are pressure sensitive and as most of us know the adhesive turns brown and leaves a stain on just about anything that it has been stuck to. Will this be the case with self-adhesive stamps? By the way never repair any philatelic item with a pressure sensitive tape; it was never designed for this purpose.

### Plastics

A great deal has been written about plastics in philately which are used as mounts and protectors. Here I am only going to say that top museums, libraries, and archives only use **polyester** (Mylar is a commercial name) without any anti-static coatings, with paper or similar materials. They never use PVC.

### Physical Damage

That care should be taken in handling material should be taken for granted. One University library that lends books had or has a notice that said something like “Books should be stored with care and should be kept away from rodents, silverfish, insects, children and other vermin”. I have seen small photo corners cause much damage especially to covers. The act of using them may cause physical damage to the corners of a cover over time. Clearly material should be handled with clean hands, (good quality stamp tweezers should be used as much as possible) but even so the moisture, and any other contaminants, on human skin will transfer to the stamp or cover. This also applies to metal dies and plates and to metal handstamps, etc where the damage so caused may continue for many years and is almost impossible to arrest; special conservation gloves should be used at all times.

Peelable stamp hinges if applied correctly are safe to use. Many collectors are not good at using hinges and it would be a good idea if those with expertise in using them were to give lessons to new collectors on their use. In any event minimal moisture should be used and the hinge should only be applied to the very top of a stamp. Plastic mounts are a safe alternative if made of polyester. The writing in pencil on covers of a price by dealers and others should be avoided as every time it is removed by



eraser it will damage the paper and if repeated will eventually cause a hole in the paper. It may be of interest to the reader to give the policy applied at British Library Philatelic Collections on the mounting and housing of its collections. Such arrangements must last one hundred years. Stamps or covers are mounted in polyester mounts on conservation quality album pages which are placed in a polyester protector. These album pages, about sixty at a time depending on the material, are stored in conservation quality boxes with a waterproof buckram covering, which are kept upright on the shelf.

### Treatments

Philatelic material that needs any kind of treatment should be shown to a paper conservator. Not all treatments are advisable, indeed some will cause damage. This many not at first be apparent but it may emerge in time. The bleaching of items is not recommended and many of the methods or techniques carried out in the past have ruined stamps and covers. Another point to remember is that repairs, cleaning, etc may be acceptable in some areas of paper object collecting, but not in philately as in some instances something close to fraud may result either in a sale or in exhibiting. Only in exceptional and rare instances will any repair work to stamps be acceptable. A good example of this is the first stamps of Hawaii, the Missionary stamps of 1851-52, which are printed on very thin and fragile paper. Many or perhaps most, of the 200 or so copies of the four types that have survived are repaired. If they had not, they probably would not exist today!

It is important to understand the difference between conversation, restoration, and improvement.

**Conservation** is to stabilise or maintain what presently exists.

**Restoration** is to return an item to its original state, while making any such work complimentary to the item, but not such that it is particularly difficult to detect, which may be regarded as an attempt to deceive, perhaps a purchaser or an exhibition judge. Other actions include: the removal of surface grime or dirt/dust, sometimes acceptable; the closing of tears, particularly if these pose a threat to an item, sometimes acceptable for postal history entires, covers and documents, but not usually acceptable for stamps. The re-gumming of unused stamps is completely unacceptable, a practice that has often been an attempt to cover up a thin in the paper.

**Improvement** is to add to an item something that was not present in its original state, for example by adding full margins to an imperforate stamp that did not have them before. It includes the removal of any manuscript marks from any stamp or cover. Improvement may become definite fraud when stamps are added or changed and where postal markings are being added, etc.

As I said at the beginning you are the custodian of your material for your lifetime or until you sell. Do look after it for future generations otherwise nothing will exist to collect, study, research and enjoy.

I should like to thank Dr Barry Knight MRSC, FIIC, ACR, former Head of Conservation Research at the British Library, for checking aspects of this article.

David Beech was Curator of the British Library Philatelic Collections from 1983 to 2013.

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**STAMP EXHIBITION** معرض طوابع  
**EPAEX DUBAI 2024** ايباكس دبي  
 فبراير 28 - مارس 3  
 28 Feb- 3 Mar

The Emirates Philatelic Association (EPA) in collaboration with Dragon Mart 2 organized the 7th edition of the EPAEX Stamp Exhibition to celebrate the 40 anniversary of UAE-China diplomatic relations and to promote philately in the region. The exhibition was held from February 28 to March 3, 2024, at Dragon Mart 2, Dubai.

H.E. Mohammed Al Murr, Chairman of the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Library Foundation, and H.E. Zhang Yiming, the ambassador of the People's Republic of China inaugurated the exhibition in the presence of the officials from the Emirates Post Group and Dragon Mart -2 and distinguished guests from the attendee countries.

The exhibitors from all the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries along with Egypt, China, and Lebanon participated with their philatelic exhibits. Also, the Emirates Post Group and Oman Post, alongside 18 local and international philatelic dealers attended the exhibition.



*Opening Ceremony*



*Commissioners*



*Jury Team*



The Jury team comprised Mr. Abdulla Khoory as the Jury President, Mr. Javaid Muhammad as the Jury Secretary, Mr. Khalid Omaira, and Mr. Ali Abdulrahman from the UAE, together with Mr. Fuad Shirazi from Bahrain and Mr. Colin Fraser from the USA as Jury members. While Mr. Samir Messiha from Egypt served as an apprentice Jury member.

The exhibits were judged according to the FIP regulations, a total of 66 exhibits in 214 frames were shown by the participants. The exhibits received 8 Gold medals, and 10 Large Vermeil medals, while others received vermeil to bronze medals.



*Visitors to the exhibition.*



*Cultural exchange at the venue.*



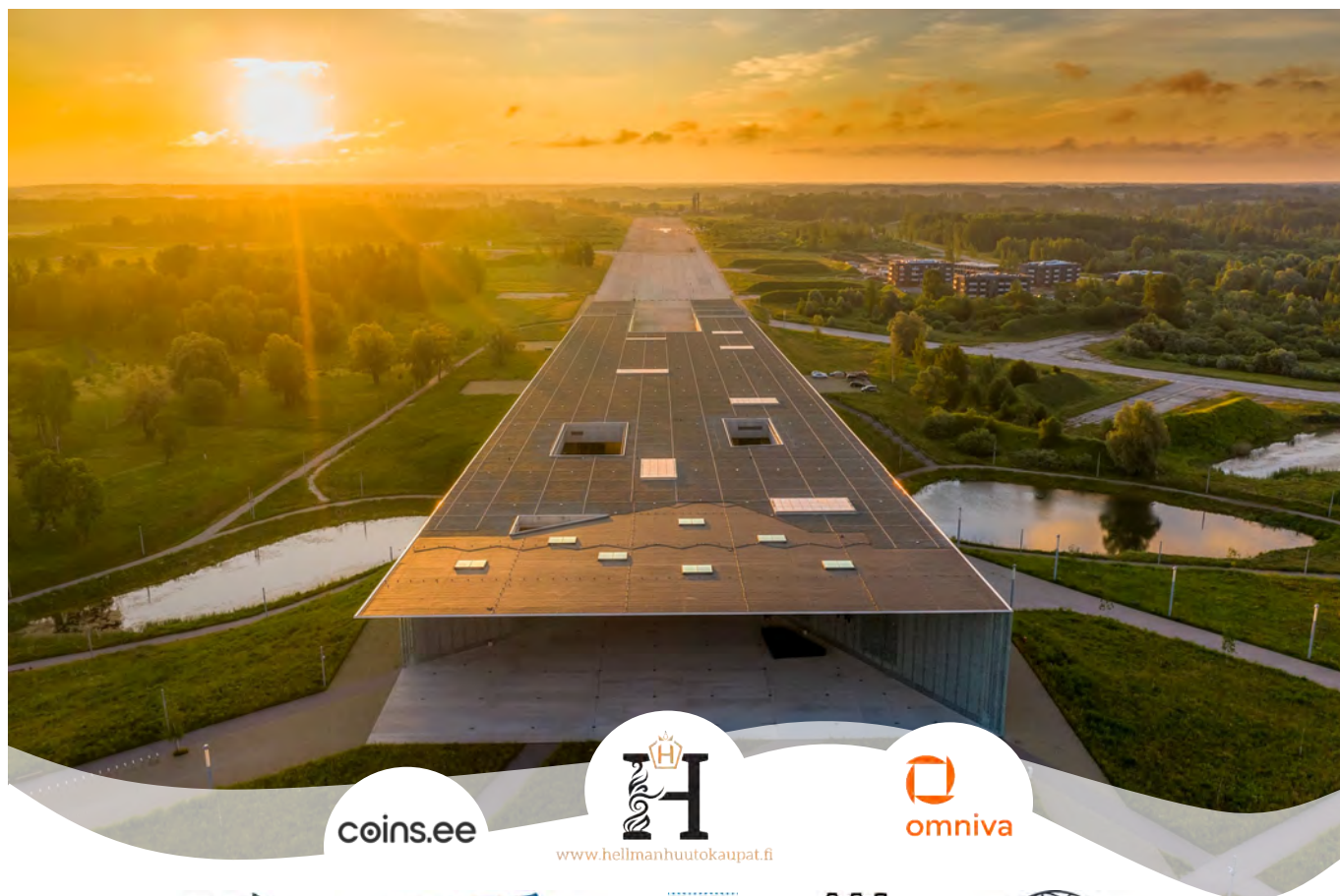
*Exhibition frames.*

Two philatelic seminars were conducted on February 29, 2024, the first seminar was “So you want to become an Exhibitor” by Colin Fraser and second one “Printers and their relationship with the Independent Trucial States post offices” by Abdulaziz Al Nuaimi. The philatelic & Numismatic auction was held on March 1, 2024.

Tang Qing’s exhibit “Beijing City in the Late Qing Dynasty and Early Republic of China: The Symmetry of Buildings” was awarded best exhibit of the show.

The Palmares party was held on March 2, 2024, at Al Khoory Courtyard Hotel, during which awards and medals were distributed to the best exhibit, gold medal winners, commissioners, jurors, organizers, and volunteers.

### **Javaid Muhammad**



coins.ee



www.hellmanhuutokaupat.fi



omniva

MARE  
BALTICUM

# INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION MARE BALTICUM 2024

The Estonian Philatelic Federation has organized the Multinational Philatelic Exhibition MARE BALTICUM 2024 in excellent facilities at the Estonian National Museum, on July 26th to July 28th 2024, in Tartu.

The exhibition was part of the official Tartu 2024 European Capital of Culture program, while the international philatelic bodies granted it the FEPA Recognition and respectively the FIP Sponsorship.

The Jury of MARE BALTICUM 2024, consisting of 11 judges representing nine different nationalities, judged a total of 153 exhibits, representing 11 different philatelic disciplines. They found that the exhibits shown were interestingly versatile, and the quality of the exhibits very high.

The Jury awarded 7 Large Gold medals and 25 Gold medals. One exhibit was transferred to a different exhibition class to ensure it achieved better awards. Unfortunately, three exhibits did not arrive and hence could not be judged.

The main goal was to bring back the MARE BALTICUM exhibitions to life again. The first MARE BALTICUM of the Baltic Sea countries was held in Tallinn, Estonia in 1993, the previous one in the Åland Islands, Finland, in 2005. After 19 years without any exhibitions of this status, MARE BALTICUM 2024 was a promising new start.

Everyone who where here at the exhibition gave a small part to the great success of MARE BALTICUM 2024.

On behalf of the organizers, I thank everyone involved!

Chairman of the Organizing Committee,  
Mr. Oliver Hanschmidt

Tartu, 30 July 2024



# Welcome to the International Philatelic Exhibition MARE BALTICUM 2024!



The opening ceremony on Friday 26.07.2024 had many speakers among FIP Director Peter Suhadolc. Musical breaks by the orchestra - Väägvere Pasunakoor (performing since 185 years).

The exhibition was opened by the sponsors and supporters each cutting a piece of the Mare Balticum ribbon.

With around 300 people at the opening ceremony and over 1000 visitors over the 3 day exhibition reached the set goals.



## JURY

- Jukka Mäkinen, Finland  
Chairman of the Jury
- Erik Hamberg, Sweden
- Bill Hedley, United Kingdom
- John Hotchner RDP, USA
- Lars Jørgensen, Belgium
- Wolfgang Leupold, Germany
- Jari Majander, Finland
- Andrzej Słodziński, Poland
- Peter Suhadolc, Slovenia
- Ivar Sundsbø RDP, Norway
- Thomas Løbbering, Germany  
Consultant to the Jury

## COMMISSIONERS

- Oliver Hanschmidt, Estonia
- Tuomo Koskiaho, Finland
- Frank Blechschmidt, Germany
- Raimonds Jonitis, Latvia
- Vygintas Bubnys, Lithuania
- Jaan Roots, Norway
- Andrzej Słodziński, Poland
- Mats Söderberg, Sweden
- Jon Aitchison, United Kingdom
- Vesma Grinfelds, United States





# PALMARÈS MARE BALTICUM 2024



**Grand Prix  
Mare Balticum  
2024  
Donated by FIP**



Atte Moilanen - The Earliest Forms of Postal Delivery in Finland (in the middle) with focus on manuscript markings



Thank you FIP for the support. Prakob Chirakiti, FIP President (at right)



**Grand Prix  
International  
Donated by FEPA**



Jussi Murtosaari - Finland, coat of arms, type 1875 (at right)



Exhibitors Jaan Roots (in the middle) and Tuomo Koskiahho (at right)



**Grand Prix  
National  
Donated by OY  
HELLMAN**



Janne Nikkanen - Historic old Tallinn in postcards (third from left)



109 guests arrived to the PALMARÈS opening to hear the young pianist Rasmus Rosenberg perform.



# BUENOS AIRES 2024

## EXPOSICIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE FILATELIA



*Exposición a realizar entre el 21 y 27 de octubre de 2024 con la participación de 16 países de América y España. Organizada por la Federación Argentina de Entidades Filatélicas (FAEF), con el auspicio de la Federación Interamericana de Filatelia (FIAF), la esponsorización de la Federación Internacional de Filatelia (FIP sponsorship).*





# **EuroPhilEx Birmingham 2025**

Britain's next major international stamp exhibition

**Wednesday 7 – Sunday 11 May 2025**

**At Hall 9 of the National Exhibition Centre,  
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10am-6pm Wednesday to Saturday and 10am-4pm Sunday

**2,000 frames of exhibits.**

**Over 50 dealers and trade stands**

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Court of Honour

including the famous 1856 British Guiana 1 cent magenta courtesy of Stanley Gibbons

Society meetings every day with meeting rooms available from £100

Society showcase day on Thursday 8 May

Philatelic Congress of Great Britain on Saturday 10 May

FEPA Congress on Sunday 11 May

Cavendish Philatelic Auction on Sunday 11 May

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

£10 admission on first day,

**FREE ADMISSION all other days**

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**[www.europhillex2025.co.uk](http://www.europhillex2025.co.uk)**

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**PUBLISHER**

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE  
DE PHILATÉLIE (FIP)

**TRANSLATIONS**

Spanish: Aldo Samamé y Samamé, Lima

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FEB 2025

URUGUAY



200

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OF INDEPENDENCE OF URUGUAY

FIP WORLD STAMP EXHIBITION  
**URUGUAY 2025**

MACA MUSEUM

17-22 FEB 2025

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100  
YEARS  
1926 - 2026



Federación Uruguaya  
de Filatelia







中国2024亚洲国际集邮展览  
CHINA 2024-ASIAN INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

# CHINA 2024

## Asian International Stamp Exhibition

29 November - 3 December, 2024  
Shanghai Exhibition Center



- **China 2024** with over 1600 Frames of full competitive classes exhibits await you!



- **Various Activities**

includes event days with 5 separate themes, FIAP Jury Academy, FIAP Exco meeting, FIAP 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, FIP Congress, Palmares Night etc.

- **Official Hotel: The Portman Ritz-Carlton, Shanghai**  
Perfect Location, quite near to the venue



For more information, please safari via the website:  
<http://www.acpf-cn.org/acpf-cn/china2024fiap/fiap2024en.shtml>