



## *Editorial*

### **Balkan Philately matters**

EFIRO 2024 has been completed in grace bringing to Bucharest a top-level competitive Philately with exhibits from 65 countries and regions around the World. It has also provided the opportunity to philatelists to share views, communicate and plan further events. During EFIRO 2024 another top-level Philatelic Exhibition was “born”, one that will take place in Belgrade in 2027 as proposed from the recently-elected, dynamic Board of the Union of Philatelists of Serbia.

The positive “EFIRO” experience was also enhanced by the F.I.P philatelic seminars which added extra value to participants as well as the hospitality of the hosts offered a really enjoyable stay in Bucharest.

Another highlight during EFIRO was a Roundtable organized by F.I.P that provided answers to certain issues. The title of the Roundtable was “Transforming Philately Globally” and the Board Members provided specific facts on sponsoring regional exhibitions and on training jurors. These two F.I.P initiatives are definitely on the right track and worth-reporting to the delegates of the Member Federation delegates.

During such a Roundtable what is expected is a full presentation for the next steps to be taken in order to lead to “Transforming Philately Globally”. Hopefully F.I.P is working on that, a budgeted, short to medium-term marketing and communication masterplan done by professionals that will actually promote philately globally. Before such a plan is finalized, a specific questionnaire “composed” by F.I.P Board – with the aid and know-how of survey opinion professionals – on this important issue has to be circulated among Member Federations.

The next months of 2024 are going to offer more exhibitions to philatelist in our region. EnajstoOkno Kranj at end of August is coming next, followed by Alpen-Adria 2024 in September in Amberg and Balkanfila XX in November in Thessaloniki because regional philately is an essential component of composing the larger picture of Global Philately, that is exactly why Balkan Philately matters.

# EFIRO 2024

## MORE than a GREAT World Stamp Exhibition

Bucharest, from 16 to 19 April, was the focus of the World Philately, hosting EFIRO 2024 under the patronage of FIP and the recognition of FEPA, with an impressive and varied participation of exhibits from 65 countries from all continents, more than 554 exhibits and 2,650 frames in all.



The EFIRO 2024 Official Opening by **Ion Chirescu**, President of the Romanian Philatelic Federation **Florin Valentin Stefan** General Director of Romanian Post and **Prakob Chirakiti** President of F.I.P

The imposing National Library of Romania hosted the exhibition on the ground and mezzanine floors, located on Bucharest's main artery, Unity Avenue that leads to the massive Parliament building, the former People's Palace.

The Balkanfila countries participated with 78 Exhibits, 490 Frames and 20 Philatelic Literature entries. In Philatelic Literature, the Balkanfila contributed with 14 Books and Research Papers (Class 11A), 3 Philatelic Magazines & Periodicals (Class 11B) and 3 Catalogues (Class 11C).



**The National Commissioners**

The exhibits with the largest number of entries were : 136 of Postal History, 131 of Traditional and 45 Thematic Philately. Then the ranking of entries by Class was : Postal Stationery 30, Postcards 27, Revenues 23, Open Philately 23, Aerophilately 22, Maximaphilia 14 and Astrophilately 8 while in Philatelic Philately there were 90 books, studies, journals and catalogues.



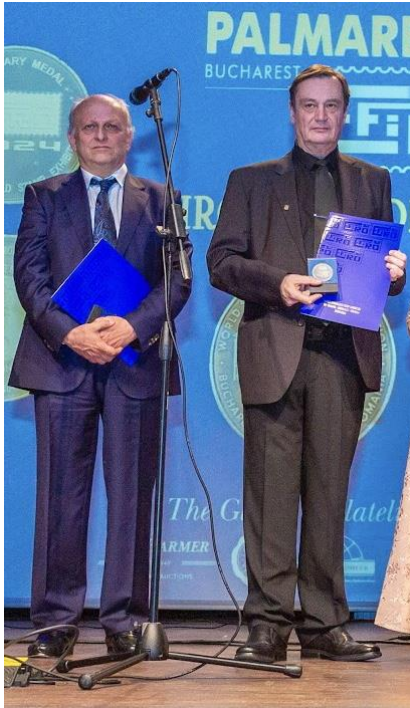
**The multi-national Jury**

World Stamp Exhibition EIRO 2024 had an interesting programme of philatelic lectures by experienced speakers in the Philately Classes of : Maximaphilia, Open Philately, Revenues, Postal Stationery and Thematic Philately.

On Thursday 18 April the much-anticipated Results were announced and as usual they were widely discussed by all participants.

During the Palmares, on Friday 19 April, at a Gala Ceremony the Grands Prix were announced.





**47 LARGE GOLD**  
and  
**105 GOLD Medals**  
**AWARDED**

**LARGE GOLD Winners : Atadan TUNACI & Ion CHIRESCU**

The National Grand Prix was won by the exhibit "Foreign Postal Services in the Romanian Region 1811 - 1878" of Ion Chirescu, President of the Romanian Philatelic Federation, while three significant exhibits were nominated for the International Grand Prix :

- The "Classical Baden" by Joseph Hackmey,
- "The Austrian Post Office in Hungary 1850 - 1867" by Adriano Bergamini and
- "The Overland Postal Connections with the Dutch East Indies 1788 - 1877" by Gerard Louis Van Welie.

Exhibitors J. Hacmey and G.L. Van Welie's exhibits were tied and by a double vote of the Chairman of the Jury, the International Gran Prix was given to the multi-awarded exhibitor Joseph Harcmey.



The **DECISIVE VOTE** : The Jury Secretary Bernard JIMENEZ

is watched by F.I.P President Prakob CHIRAKITI and Jury Vice-President Turhan TURGUT

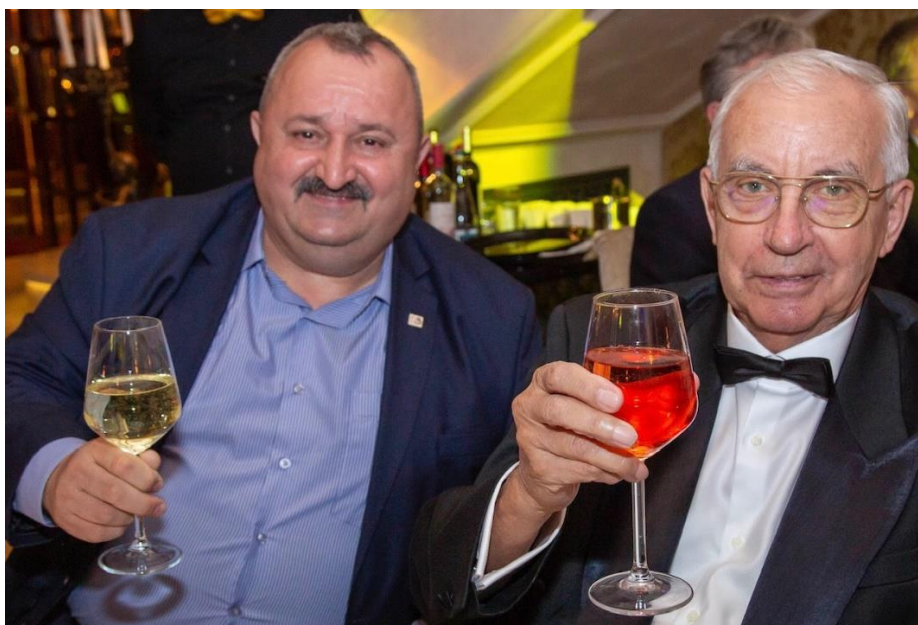
During EFIRO 2024, the meeting of the members of Balkanfila also took place, during which on the one hand the Greek delegation provided an update on how Balkanfila XX in Thessaloniki proceeds and on the other hand all participants exchanged views on the recently issued Balkanfila Newsletter.



*Seated left to right : Costas Chazapis, George Thomareis, Alexandru Daan Bartoc, Boncho Bonev.*

*Standing left to right : Mehmet Akan, Igor Pirc, Vladimir Milic, Christos Gikas, Ioannis Refanidis, Julije Maras.*

The organization of EFIRO 2024 in Bucharest was important both from the philatelic point of view since the participants had the opportunity to view very interesting exhibits from all over the world (Brazil, Peru, India, China, Australia, New Zealand and China) and pleasant since we all had the pleasure to meet friends, exchange views and plan joint actions with multinational companies.



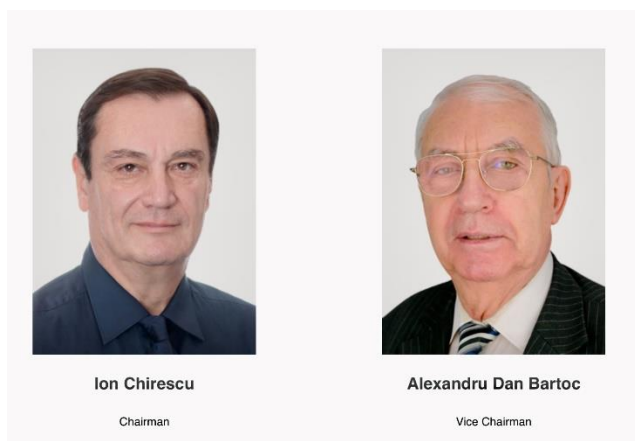
**Andrei Adam (Moldova) and Alexandru Dan Bartoc (Romania)**

Finally, our hosts the Romanian Philatelic Federation and the EFIRO O.C offered top hospitality in an enjoyable ambience converting a World Stamp Exhibition into friendly gathering and set higher standards for forthcoming International Philatelic Exhibitions in our region and the FEPA flag continues its philatelic voyage to HAFNIA 24 in Copenhagen.



*from left to right* : FEPA Secretary General **Igor PIRC**, Director **Thomas HOEPFNER**, Treasurer **Lars JORGENSEN**, **Ion CHIRESCU** Romanian Philatelic Federation President, **Francisc AMBRUS** EFIRO 2024 General Commissioner and long-time Balkanfila insirator **Alexandru Dan BARTOC**.

**Special thanks to all our hosts and especially to the Protagonists  
for organizing a great and pleasant Philatelic Exhibition**



**Romania**  
Francisc Ambrus

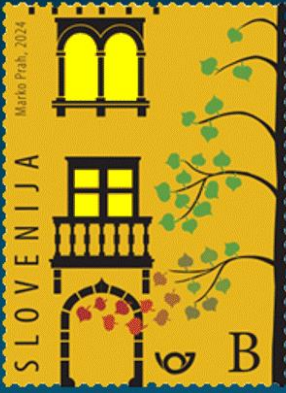


**Romania**  
Romeo Mincă

*images taken from EFIRO 2024 Catalogue*

# EnajstoOkno – to encourage the Exhibitors:

NTE traditional exhibition EnajstoOkno Kranju 2024 invites you to exhibit



One-frame Philatelic Exhibition  
with International Participation

## EnajstoOkno

Kranj, 29. 8. – 7. 9. 2024

The 11<sup>th</sup> specialized NTE (Narrow Theme Exhibits in one, two, or three frames) Exhibition with International Participation welcomes exhibits from all Balkanfila Countries.

Exhibits must have obtained on national and related rank exhibitions at least 70 points, new exhibits must be properly justified by the respective National Commissioner.

Exhibitors can display their exhibits in physical form or in digital form.

The deadline for entries is June 30, 2024.

More on [www.fzs.si/enajstookno2024](http://www.fzs.si/enajstookno2024)

### EnajstoOkno KRANJ 2024



ONE-FRAME PHILATELIC EXHIBITION  
28.8. – 7.9.2024



# **BALKANFILA XX**

*WELCOMES you*  
*in Thessaloniki !*

13 - 16 November 2024

## **BALKANFILA XX : an International Philatelic Exhibition**

Balkanfila XX hosted in Thessaloniki, from 13-16 November 2024, welcomes the participating countries from the Balkan region as well as Cyprus, Israel and Italy in an exhibition of international standards with emphasis on the cultural and social importance of Philately.

The Exhibition has already been endorsed by prominent institutional bodies such as the Municipality of Thessaloniki, F.E.P.A (the European Philatelic Federation) and F.I.P (Fédération Internationale de Philatélie).

## **as well as a Cultural Event for Thessaloniki and the Balkans**

A cultural event - consisting of an exhibition of important documents and a series of lectures - will take place, during the International Philatelic Exhibition Balkanfila XX, at the same exhibition hall.

The aim of this cultural event is to highlight the history of the city and communicate the decisive role of the ethnic communities of Thessaloniki and the wider region which have lived, prospered and left their indelible imprint on the modern metropolitan centre.

A group of renowned collectors-scholars and academics are contributing to this effort aiming to present documented historical knowledge based on collectibles to the general public.

**Under the AUSPICES of**



**F.E.P.A RECOGNITION**



**F.I.P SPONSORSHIP**





# BALKANFILA XX WELCOMES



**Exhibitors from Balkanfila Working Group members as well as Cyprus, Israel and Italy.**

**Exhibitors from all World with exhibits related to the Balkan and Eastern Mediterranean regions.**

**All World with Philatelic Literature exhibits.**

## **Classes :**

All **F.I.P** and **F.E.P.A** competitive Classes including  
Open, Modern, Picture Postcards  
and a “**Court of Honour**” for distinguished exhibits.

## **General Commissioner :**

Thomas Arvanitis

## **Contact :**

**[balkanfilaxx@gmail.com](mailto:balkanfilaxx@gmail.com)**



**Be there and take part in an International Celebration of Philately as a Cultural Event !**

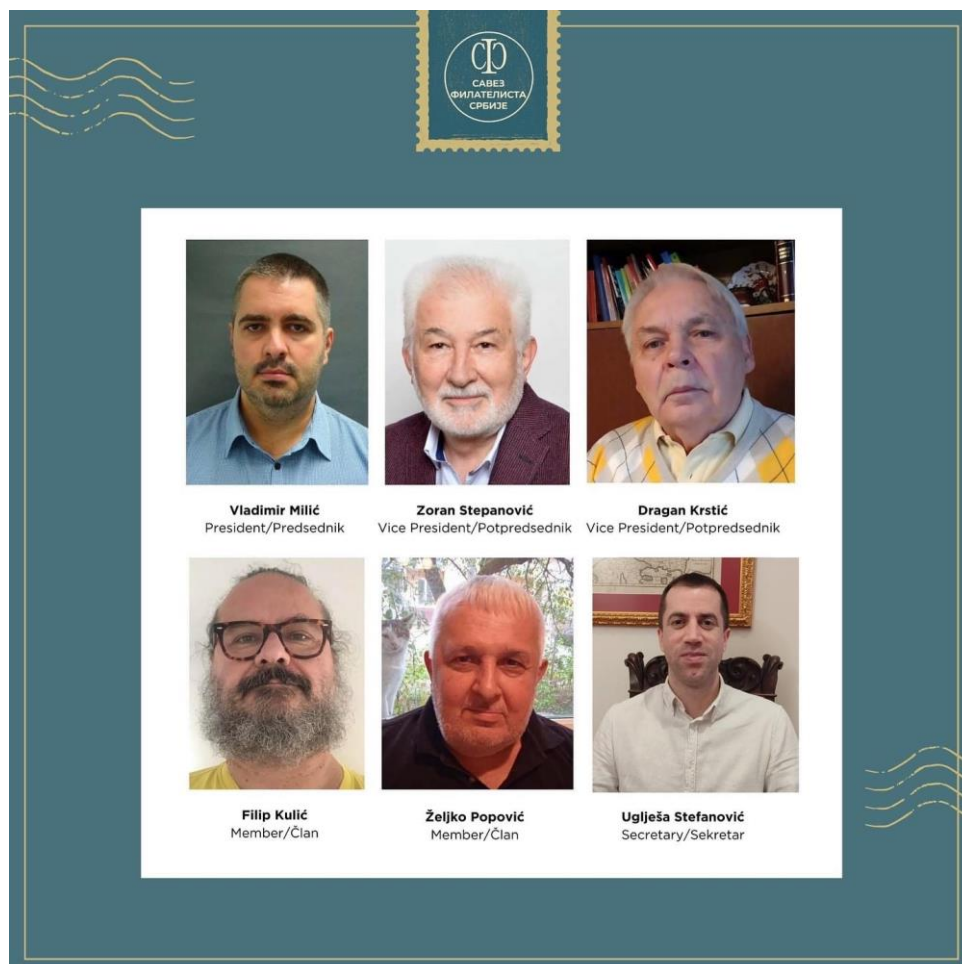
# New Board of the Union of Philatelists of Serbia

President : Vladimir Milic

Vladimir Milic was elected as the new President of Union of Philatelists of Serbia at the assembly held on January 9<sup>th</sup> this year.

At the same session, a new board of directors was elected, for the period January 2024 – December 2027. It consists of all the regional representatives directly delegated and confirmed by the Assembly: Zoran Stepanovic (Vice president), Dragan Krstic (Vice president), Filip Kulic (Member) and Zeljko Popovic (Member). Ugljesa Stefanovic was elected as the Secretary of the Union of Philatelists of Serbia.

The new team has announced more intensive cooperation with the Serbian Post and a further step forward in the digitalization trend process. It is also planned to organize a national as well as an international philatelic exhibition in the next four years.



# WORLD PHILATELIC EXHIBITION IN BELGRADE

Belgrade will be the capital of World Philately at prestigious EXPO 2027 showcase.



Savez Filatelista Srbije (Serbian Philatelists' Union) and Javno preduzeće "Pošta Srbije" (Serbia Post public Enterprise) have applied for the World Philatelic Exhibition in Belgrade 2027.

Belgrade will be the capital of World Philately : Prestigious EXPO 2027 showcase

At the EFIRO 2024 World Philatelic Exhibition in Bucharest, the members of the Board of the World Philatelic Organisation (FIP – Fédération Internationale de Philatélie) approved this proposal and gave their approval for the prestigious exhibition to be held in Belgrade in 2027, organised by the Serbian Philatelists' Union (Saveza Filatelista Srbije).

Ratification of this decision is foreseen at the F.I.P. Congress in December this year in Shanghai, and before the F.I.P., Mr. Peter Suhadolc (Slovenia) has been appointed as the consultant of the showcase, assisted by Mr. Yigal Nathaniel (Israel).

By entrusting the organisation of the World Expo, which will for the first time be held on the territory of the former Yugoslavia, Belgrade is given the honour, the mandate and the commitment to become the World's Philatelic capital at BEOGRAD EXPO 2027.

Belgrade, as the centre of this event, has the opportunity to show its rich history and to present itself as an open, hospitable city, welcoming philatelists and postage stamp enthusiasts from all over the World.

## Philatelic Presentations and Lectures

In cooperation with Serbian postal operator – “Posta Srbije” and PTT museum, the Union of Philatelists of Serbia continues with presentation in PTT museum, Belgrade:

Presentation: "Eugen Derocco 1860–1944", Prof. Milan Radovanović, PhD

[80 godina od odlaska Evžena Deroka u slavu \(youtube.com\)](#)

Presentation: “Yugoslav Inflation and Postal Rates 1989–1994”, Vladimir Milic

[Jugoslovenska inflacija i poštanske tarife, 1989–1994. \(youtube.com\)](#)

СФФ САВЕЗ ФИЛАТЕЛИСТА СРБИЈЕ

ПОШТА

ПТТ МУЗЕЈ  
Поштанско Телеграфско Телефонски

ПРЕДАВАЊЕ

**ЈУГОСЛОВЕНСКА ИНФЛАЦИЈА  
И ПОШТАНСКЕ ТАРИФЕ  
1989-1994.**

Владимир Милић  
Савез филателиста Србије  
30. март 2024. године

Both presentations are available on our YouTube channel, please follow us there:

[\(72\) SFS – Savez filatelista Srbije – YouTube](#)

# A Specialized Catalog of Yugoslavia 1918 - 1991

A New bilingual Catalog is now available

## WORLDSTAMPSPROJECT

Slovenska filatelija, 2. zvezek



## JUGOSLAVIJA 1918–1991

Specializiran katalog poštних znamk

YUGOSLAVIA 1918–1991

A Specialized Catalog of Postage Stamps

2024

The catalog was published by the Worldstampsproject, in which two members of Ljubljana Philatelic Club also participated.

The catalog consists of 540 pages and includes: Provincial issues after the First World War (Chainbreakers, Issues for Bosnia and Croatia), Serbia, Pre and post war Yugoslavia, issues of the refugee government in London, Istria and Vuja. In the color catalog, many varieties are shown, not found elsewhere, in pictures and with prices.

The catalog is bilingual Slovenian English. It does not contain WW2 occupation issues; this is scheduled for the next catalog.

You can get the catalog from the editor **Andrej Verbič** at [info-wsp@t-2.si](mailto:info-wsp@t-2.si) at a price of 28 euros plus postage

Boštjan Petauer

The new issue of the national magazine **PHILATELIST** (283) is available in pdf version on the website of the Serbian Federation:

EUGEN DEROCCO – Prof. dr. Milan Radovanović and dr. Tivadar Gaudenyi

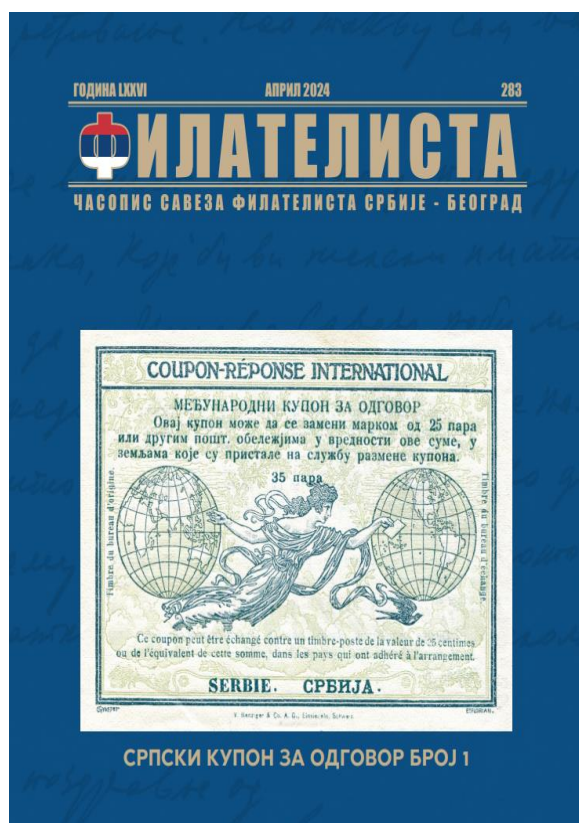
POSTAL MARKINGS USED DURING THE BULGARIAN OCCUPATION OF SERBIA IN WORLD WAR I – Richard M. Stevens

STUDY OF THE SERBIAN POST FROM THE SECOND OCCUPATION OF ALBANIA IN 1915 – Prof. dr. Milan Radovanović

POSTAL CIRCULATIONS IN ITALIAN FASCIST CAMPS DURING WORLD WAR II – Besnik FISHTA

MODERN PHILATELY – Svetislav D. Jelic

Link: [philaserbia.org/filatelista/2024/casopis-filatelista-283.pdf](http://philaserbia.org/filatelista/2024/casopis-filatelista-283.pdf)



# A superb Exhibition Catalogue



Apart from the expected content of an Exhibition Catalogue (Greetings, Exhibition Venue and Schedule, Organizing Committee, Commissioners, Jury and Expert Team as well as Exhibition Layouts, Trade Booths, Medals, Exhibit Listings and Partners), the well-designed and aesthetically superb EFIRO 2024 Catalogue included a number of philatelic and history articles and presentation that “elevated” this printed material to a real “art book” worth having it on the shelf of a bookcase.

Namely the most interesting content is to be found in the following articles :

**EFIRO 1932 in the Gallery of International Philatelic Exhibitions from the Beginning of the '30s** : a detailed, illustrated presentation by Christian Dan Bartoc & Alexandru Dan Bartoc.

**Best of Romanian Philately** : a showcase of rare “gems” of Romanian Philately.

**150 Years since the establishment of the Universal Postal Union** : all about a definitive solution to an international postal rate chaos before 1874 by Mircea Muresan.

**A 1904 letter to a young Prince** : the story of an overfranked philatelic but at the same time historical cover sent to notable philatelist of the time : “His Royal Highness, Prince Carol of Romania, Sinaja” as “told” by postal history investigator Alexios Papadopoulos.

**160 Years since the establishment of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Romania 1864–2024** : a philatelically illustrated approach to the history of Romania’s organized Commerce and Industry by Mircea Muresan

**The Union of the Romanian Principalities in 1859 and Prince Alexandru Ioan Cuza** : the narrative of the historical facts and the protagonists that led to the formation of the Union of the Romanian Principalities and later to the formation of Romanian National State by Cristian Mosneanu

“World of Revenues” Salon on the occasion of the WSE “EFIRO 2024” : a fascinating four-page presentation of Revenues since its first usage in 1624 in Holland with important revenue illustrations by the Revenue expert Francisc Ambrus

Finally this Catalogue listed and shown all the philatelic items related to EFIRO 2024 such as : Stamp issues, Official Covers, Maximum Cards, Postmarks and Vignettes.

2024  
ROMANIA

## EFIRO 2024 SPECIAL COVERS





# MUSEUM of ROMANIAN RECORDS

The Museum of Romanian Records is far from just another private collection of a passionate and dedicated collector. It is an impressive Romanian “ark” of history, traditions and culture highlighting the country’s past and present.



During EFIRO 2024 foreign guests enjoyed the hospitality of the hosts at the Museum of Romanian Collections, a five-storey museum houses in its halls an amazing collection of impressive Romanian Philatelic Collection, where more than 50,000 items are displayed, containing Romanian stamps and other philatelic objects, since the appearance of the “Bull’s Head” until today.





Although for Philatelists the Museum's philatelic collection is the "soul" of their interest, a true collector will also be amazed by other collections including the Pressing Irons collection of over 35,000 items, the Corkscrew collection of 30,000 items and the Vintage Camera collection with 5,000 items.



For the still doubtful collectors : Seeing is Believing at the



## NEW STAMP ISSUES

### Bosnia and Herzegovina Mostar



The EUROPE stamps, were circulated on April 5<sup>th</sup>, build awareness of Europe's common roots, culture, history and goals. The theme of 2024 is underwater flora and fauna, and the motifs of the Croatian Post Mostar are the bivalve date shell and the green alga *Acetabularia acetabulum*.



The date shell is a marine bivalve from the mussel family (Mytilidae) that lives on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea (including the Adriatic Sea), the Atlantic and the Red Sea. It inhabits cliffs and standalone rocks to which it clings as a larva and starts drilling them. Its shell is elongated, cylindrical and up to 12 cm long. Date shells are considered an exceptional delicacy and their fishing is prohibited in many countries.

The *Acetabularia acetabulum* is a species of green algae from the Polyphysaceae family, which is widespread in the Mediterranean and Adriatic seas. It got its Croatian name (Jadranski klobučić – Adriatic cap) because of the visibly pronounced radial ribs on the white mushroom-like or umbrella-like cap.



World Parkinson's Day was marked for the first time on April 11, 1997, on the birthday of the English physician James Parkinson (1755 - 1824) who first described the then unknown disease in 1817. The goal of celebrating this day is to raise awareness and knowledge about the causes, symptoms and treatment options. Parkinson's disease is a chronic progressive neurodegenerative disorder of the central nervous system in which cells that secrete dopamine die.

One of the first symptoms is tremors, which are present at rest, disappear during sleep, decrease when moving, and increase during emotional excitement and exertion. The disease significantly reduces the quality of life of the affected person and affects the family and the entire community. Modern possibilities for early diagnosis and early treatment have significantly extended the working ability and independent life of patients.

A red and white tulip is considered a symbol of Parkinson's disease. It was grown by the Dutch horticulturist Van der Wereld, who had Parkinson's disease, and named it after James Parkinson. The red tulip is a symbol of support for people living with this disease and their families.

Stamps and accompanying materials can also be purchased online at [www.epostshop.ba](http://www.epostshop.ba)

## Greece

On April 18<sup>th</sup>, Hellenic Post circulated the six-stamp Commemorative issue “Synagogues of Greece”, featuring characteristic synagogues, places of worship as well as centres of prayer and study of the Law, located in Greece (Athens, Thessaloniki, Ioannina, Rodos, Trikala and Larisa).



## Romania

Romfilatelia introduced into circulation on March 19<sup>th</sup>, an issue with a uniqueness attribute, illustrating in the images of the postage stamp, the perforated souvenir sheet and the First Day Cover “a new world of stamps” where the traditional binder is replaced by the digital collection.

The generic title **Innovation, Steps to the Future** defines an Innovation that opens a new era in philately, the NFT stamp images, postage stamps issued as non-fungible tokens (which cannot be replaced with others of the same kind).

A NFT is a type of digital asset that uses blockchain technology to authenticate the uniqueness and ownership of a digital item, such as an image, audio file, or any other digital content. In the case of NFT stamps, they are digital versions of traditional postage stamps. They are created and stored on the blockchain, which gives them digitally owned and verified properties. Typically, these NFT stamps can be collected, traded, and marketed on dedicated online marketplaces for NFTs.

Romfilatelia launched, on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, on the government platform of the National Institute for Research and Development in Informatics – ICI Bucharest, the unique collection of 15 NFTs entitled “A World in a Stamp”.

Augmented reality stamps are traditional postage stamps that, when scanned using augmented reality (AR) technology on a mobile device or computer, provide an additional interactive experience. This is done by embedding a visible or invisible code on the stamp that can be read by the device running the appropriate AR application.



Once the stamp is scanned, the AR app can add additional elements to the screen, such as 3D animations, videos, sounds, or additional information about the subject of the stamp. These additional elements can provide a more interactive and educational experience for stamp collectors or those interested in the subject matter represented by the stamp.

This technology can be used to add value to stamp collections, to educate and draw more attention to the subjects represented on the stamps, or to provide a more interesting and interactive correspondence experience.

The postage stamp of the issue with the face value of **Lei 13** reproduces an established traditional stamp, the *Bull Head*, transposed into a virtual reality, as in a website. Because the stamp also means travel, a story was imagined in which a common element appears – VR headset (virtual helmet) – through which the traditional stamp transposed in augmented reality is visualized in 3D.

Stamp also means imagination, so the future can also signify the stamp's travel into space, websites, virtual collectors. If flown covers exist, the future may bring beautiful virtual stories through stamps.

The graphics of the postage stamp of the souvenir sheet with the face value of **Lei 33** and the First Day Cover reflect exactly these ideas.

A new postage stamps issue with the subject of astronomical phenomena became available to the general public and collectors on April 8<sup>th</sup> under the title **Astronomy. Events**, the issue, consisted of two postage stamps and 1 First Day Cover.

This year marks 25 years since the Great European Eclipse, with the central point of the band of totality in Romania, near the town of Râmnicu Vâlcea, on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 1999. A total solar eclipse is not as rare as it is thought. The condition is to travel where it is produced.



Somewhere around the globe, we see a total solar eclipse every one year and four months!

A total solar eclipse occurs when there is a perfect alignment of the Sun, Moon, and Earth, in that order, with the Moon between the Earth and the Sun. In fact, the Moon, in its orbital movement, enters in front of the Sun, obscuring it and allowing to be seen, for a few minutes, what is invisible on ordinary days, namely the solar corona and the phenomena of the Sun's chromosphere. This phenomenon has been particularly important in the history of science, physics, chemistry and astronomy in particular, and now, in the age of the Internet and air travel across the planet, it has become one of the most coveted places for scientific expeditions and exotic excursions.

## New definitive postage stamps of the Republic of Serbia for EXPO BG 2027

Ministers of Finance and Information and Telecommunications of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, Siniša Mali and Mihailo Jovanović, and Acting Director of the Post of Serbia, Zoran Đorđević, announced the new regular postage stamps of the Republic of Serbia for the period 2024–2027, symbolically named EXPO BG 2027, which in the next three years will convey the message of welcome to the specialized world exhibition EXPO in Belgrade 2027.



Ministers Mali, Jovanović, and Director Đorđević spoke about progress on the EXPO 2027 project, construction of facilities, plans and development of digitalization and information and communication infrastructure.

Deputy Prime Minister of Serbia and Minister Siniša Mali said that EXPO 2027 will be a huge driving force to the progress and development of our country, economy and business, that it will accelerate economic growth and contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of Serbian citizens. According to his words, the organization of the world exhibition and the construction of the necessary infrastructure will make a significant contribution to the further development of the construction industry, tourism, hospitality industry, in the fields of innovation, modern technologies, science, culture, sports and will strengthen the international position of our country. Siniša Mali also pointed out that the work on the construction site in Surčin, where the EXPO exhibition will be held, is proceeding according to plans, and reminded that the new National Football Stadium, the new Belgrade Fair, the Aquatic Centre and a residential complex with 1,500 apartments will also be built on that area, as well as all the necessary supporting infrastructure.

"We expect that EXPO 2027, which is being held in Southeast Europe for the first time in the last three decades, will strengthen the position of Belgrade and Serbia as a regional centre of information and communication technologies, creative industries and innovations, based on knowledge and sustainable technological development. In accordance with the Program Serbia 2027 – Leap into the Future, we will continue to work on further digitalization in order to present to the world a new, modern Serbia in 2027, a leader in the field of ICT", said Minister Mihailo Jovanović and added that the promotion of this unique international event will also be accompanied by postage stamps with motifs dedicated to the EXPO 2027 exhibition, as a permanent seal and testimony of all important events in the history of a nation.

Zoran Đorđević explained in what ways the Post of Serbia will contribute to the realization of the project, as well as its promotion in the country and abroad. He explained that the motifs of the six new regular stamps of EXPO BG 2027 are based on the reprint of the issue published by the then Union of Yugoslav PTTs on the occasion of the EXPO 1967 international exhibition in Canada. He thanked the author of the stamps, Petar Jakelić, a prominent Croatian and Yugoslav painter, for granting the right to use the motif for this project free of charge.

The applied motifs speak of space exploration and are symbols of new technologies, ideas and a positive future, which is also the guiding idea of the EXPO international exhibition. The logo of the exhibition is highlighted on the stamps, and the parallel 1967–2027 underlines the historical continuity of our country in its aspiration to be a leader in innovation in the region.

Regular stamps as a means of payment for postal services will be found on more than one million postal items being sent abroad from Serbia every year, as well as on the same number of postal item on average per year in domestic postal traffic. Instead of nominal values expressed in dinars, letters are introduced for postal traffic services, in order to ensure that stamps are continuously in use for the next three years. The letters that indicate the value of the stamps are E, X, P, O, B, G, which, in the framework of philately, adds to their collector's value.



All NEW issues from Serbian postal operator – “Posta Srbije” in 2024 are available here :

Commemorative issues: [Пригодна издања – 2024 – еФилателија \(posta.rs\)](https://posta.rs)





## 100 years of Radio Beograd



October 1, 1924 is taken as the date of the official start of broadcasting of radio programme in our country, the day of the beginning of programme broadcasting of Radiophonic Station Belgrade–Rakovica, the first in Serbia, the Kingdom of SCS, and the Balkans. On the same day of the same year, radio programme in Vienna began broadcasting. Politika and all the other daily press of the time published the news about the radio programme schedule, the radio concert that was held on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays afternoon in the concert hall at Knez Mihailova 42 in Belgrade, and was broadcast through the radiotelegraph station in Rakovica.

The technical innovation of that time met with a more than warm reception from listeners who demanded regular daily broadcasting of the programme, so the newly formed enterprise Radio Beograd JSC started regular broadcast of radio programme on March 24, 1929, with the words spoken by Jelena Bilbija, “This is Radio Beograd calling”. The bombing of Belgrade on April 6, 1941 and the German occupation of Serbia led to the interruption of the Radio Beograd programme, on the airwaves of which the signal of the occupation German station Military Radio Belgrade, known for the wartime hit Lily Marlene, was broadcast.



On November 10, 1944, Jelena Bilbija once again addressed the listeners of Radio Beograd from the liberated capital, with the familiar words – “This is Radio Beograd calling”. Not long after the liberation, in 1947, Radio Beograd got a new address – a building at Hilendarska 2, from the roof of which the letters of this radio station are still visible today.

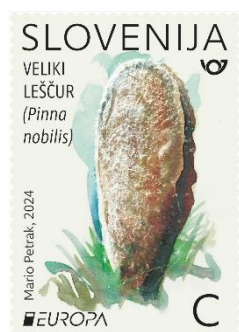
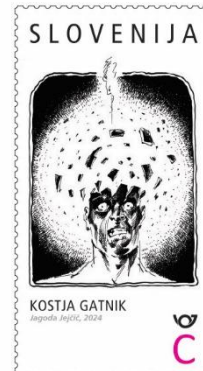
“Jolly evening”, “Caravan”, “Good morning, children”, “Time for sports and entertainment”, are just some of the shows with which generations from these areas grew up listening to the voices of Draga Jonaš, Ljiljana Marković, Dušanka Kalanj, Mića Orlović, Svetislav Vuković, Jordan Ivanović, Marko Marković and many others who, from the waves of Radio Beograd 1, and then Radio Beograd 2 (from 1958), the third programme of Radio Beograd (from 1965), and Programme 202 (from 1969), were daily guests in homes throughout our region, making Radio Beograd the most influential radio station in the Balkans.

## SLOVENIA Forthcoming Philatelic issues

The stamps of this year's third postage stamp issue are due out on **31 May 2024**.

We will be issuing a series of stamps entitled **Works of Slovene Illustrators**, consisting of five stamps issued simultaneously. These stamps, featuring the works of Jelka Reichman, Marlenka Stupica, Karel Zelenko, Zvonko Čoh and Kostja Gatnik, will be issued in sheetlets of ten.

There will be a further stamp issue on **8 July 2024**. As is now traditional, we will once again issue a stamp in the **Euromed Postal** series, this year dedicated to **Mediterranean Sport**. Issued in sheets of 25, the stamp will illustrate basketball, volleyball and swimming, the three sports from the Mediterranean Games in which Slovenia is most successful.



**Underwater Fauna and Flora** is the theme of this year's **Europa** stamps series. Two stamps will illustrate life in the sea and in freshwater habitats. As with all the stamps in this series, two different designs will be issued, both in sheetlets of eight stamps.



**There will be a further stamp issue on 8 July 2024. As is now traditional, we will once again issue a stamp in the Euromed Postal series, this year dedicated to Mediterranean Sport. Issued in sheets of 25, the stamp will illustrate basketball, volleyball and swimming, the three sports from the Mediterranean Games in which Slovenia is most successful.**

In the **Sport** series, two stamps dedicated to the **Games of the XXXIII Olympiad** (the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris) will be issued in sheetlets of six stamps (3 x 2).

**From 28 August to 7 September 2024** the Slovenian Philatelic Association (FZS) will host in Kranj the eleventh in its series of international philatelic exhibitions of one-frame exhibits under the title **"EnajstoOkno Kranj 2024"**, with the participation of exhibitors from all over Europe. Once again we will mark the occasion by issuing a **picture postcard**.

# Best Music Stamp of 2023 it's VOTERS' DECISION



The philatelic music study group “Motivgruppe Musik” was founded, about 50 years ago, by several stamp collectors interested in “Music on Stamps”.

Their specialized website contains interesting information related to Music Philatelic items and Music Stamp Collections as well as Articles and Books on Music Philately.

“Motivgruppe Musik” members –following the death of the famous violinist and conductor Sir Yehudi Menuhin– decided to award the price for the most popular music stamp his memory with the full agreement of Menuhin’s family. For 30 years from 1969 until his death in 1999, Menuhin was Patron of the Philatelic Music Circle.



## Yehudi-Menuhin-Trophy for Music Philately

The Yehudi-Menuhin Trophy –honouring the memory of the great violinist– is annually awarded to the designer of the most popular Music stamp issued in the previous year. The winners are chosen by all stamp collectors interested in Music Philately.



This year 66 music stamps from 61 postal entities are competing for being voted by you as the 2023 BEST MUSIC STAMP. Among the 66 music stamps, 11 stamps were issued by 10 Balkanfila countries (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Greece (2), Croatia, Moldova, North Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia, Turkey)



ALBANIA



BULGARIA



BOSNIA–HERZEGOVINA



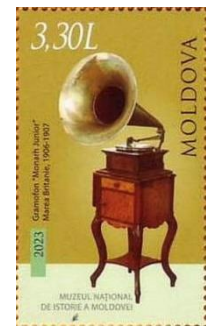
CROATIA



GREECE 1



GREECE 2



MOLDOVA



NORTH MACEDONIA



SERBIA



SLOVENIA



TURKIYE

The Voting runs until 31 July 2024 until, it is open to all with just one vote per email address and it is time for us to cast our vote @

<http://www.motivgruppe-musik.com/en/musik-philatelie/yehudi-menuhin-trophy/schoenste-musikbriefmarke-2023-die-kandidaten/>

*Source : the superb "Motivgruppe Musik" website*



# BANANAS



**Our Special Thanks to the Author : Primož Čebulj, FD Lovrenc Košir, Škofja Loka, Slovenia**

The banana plant, a member of the Musaceae family, thrives in warm, humid climates and is sensitive to cold temperatures. It grows from an underground stem known as a rhizome and is classified as a monocot. Bananas boast remarkable versatility, featuring prominently in diverse cuisines, whether consumed fresh, cooked, or baked. Loaded with potassium, vitamins, and dietary fiber, bananas are a nutritious choice. Worldwide banana production exceeds 150 million tons annually. The top producers of bananas are India, China, Philippines, Ecuador, and Brazil.

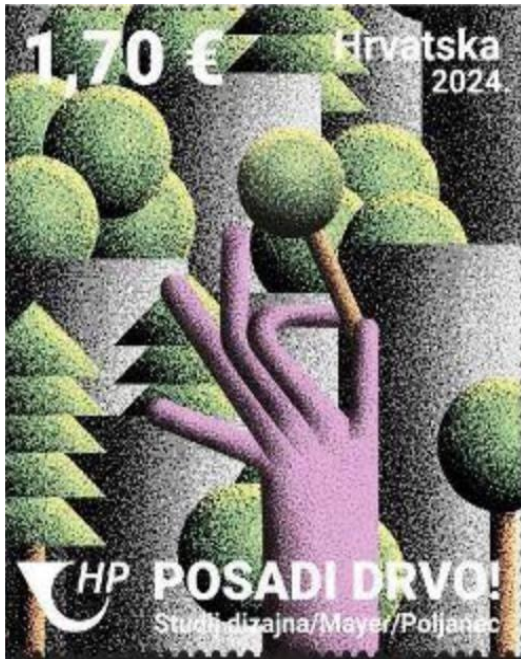


Please check out video on YouTube to learn a little more about bananas:

<https://youtu.be/mTrbw1sMAKs>



# Climate Change



Environmental issues are a top concern for Humanity and Croatia Post responds with the issue of an expertly designed stamp on Climate Changes.

From a scientific point of view climate changes occur as a result of the interaction of the atmosphere and various other geological, biological and geographical factors within the Earth's system.

Philately as an integral part of human culture is always sensitive to all world issues



For **Suggestions, Comments and Inquiries**, kindly contact the **National Delegates**

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