

European Union:

Members: Germany, France, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Belgium, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Italy, Austria, Finland, Ireland, United Kingdom, Sweden, Denmark, Poland, Hungary, Slovenia, Slovakia, Malta, Cyprus, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, the Czech Republic, Romania and Bulgaria.

Flag of the European Union:

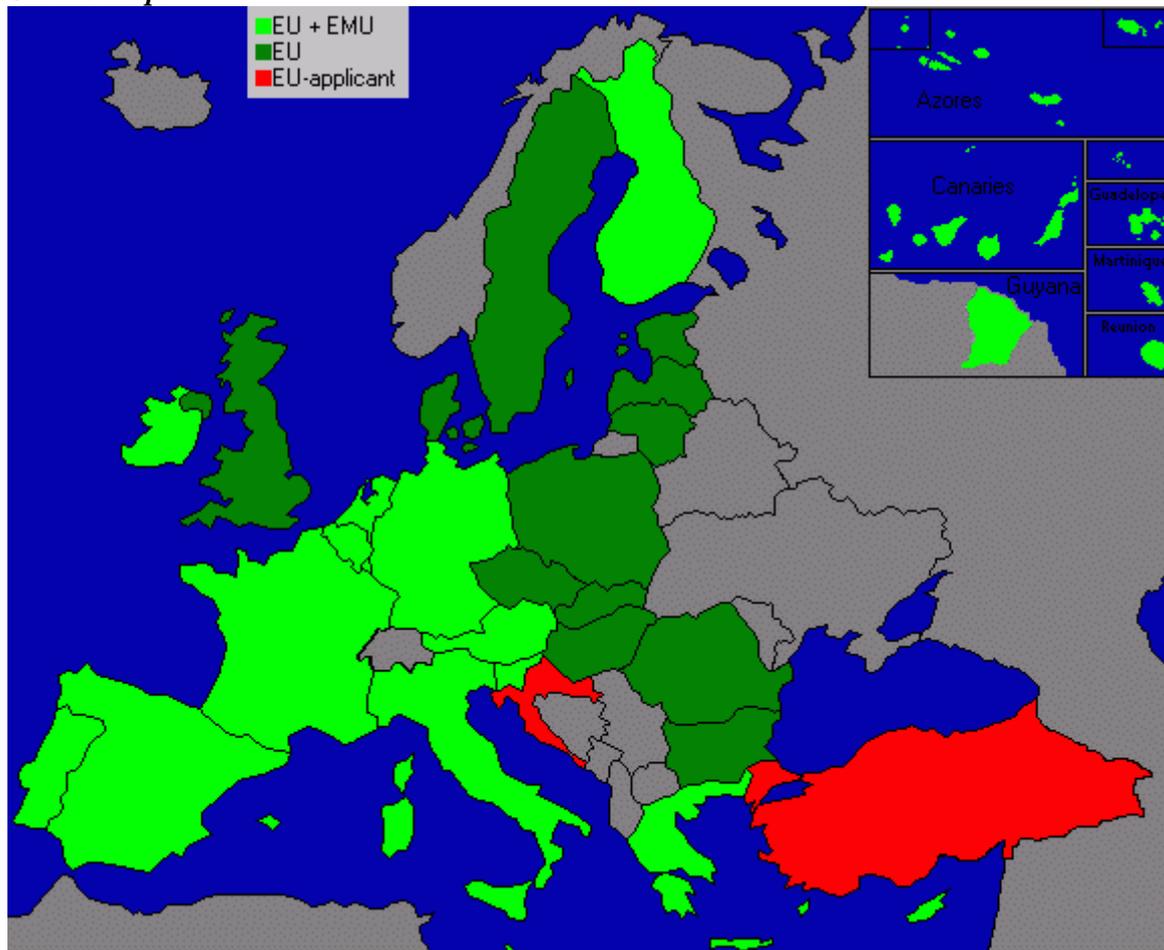


Contrary to popular belief the twelve stars do not represent countries. The number of stars has not and will not change. Twelve represents perfection, with cultural reference to the twelve apostles and tribes.

The European Anthem is "Ode to Joy" from Beethoven's 9th symphony.

There are two common holidays May the 5th commemorates Churchill's speech about a united Europe and May the 9th commemorates the French statesman, one of the EU-founders, Robert Schuman.

On the map:



Economic & Monetary Union:

In the fifteen countries that make up the EMU (Economic & Monetary Union) the national currency has been replaced by the euro.

Members: Germany, France, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Belgium, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Italy, Austria, Finland, Ireland, Slovenia, Malta and Cyprus.

Euro symbol:



Demonstration of correct usage:

1 euro	€1,00
21 eurocents	€0,21

Important facts:

- *On the EU:* The interior borders have ceased to exist (in the Schengen countries). The inhabitants have the right of free travel, and may work and settle in any EU-country.
- *On the EMU:* The functions of the National Banks in the euro-zone have been taken over by the European Central Bank in Frankfurt.
- Stamps with euro face-value can only be used in the country in which they have been published.
- The European mini-states San Marino, Monaco and the Vatican have their own euro-coins, but have no influence on the monetary policy of the ECB. Andorra uses the euro, but does not have its own coins. Liechtenstein continues to use the Swiss Frank.

Irrevocably fixed conversion rates:

Belgian Franc	€1,00 = BEF	40,3399
Luxembourg Franc	€1,00 = LUF	40,3399 (= BEF)
French Franc	€1,00 = FRF	6,55957
Dutch Guilder	€1,00 = NLG	2,20371
German Mark	€1,00 = DEM	1,95583
Italian Lira	€1,00 = ITL	1936,27
Portuguese Escudo	€1,00 = PTE	200,482
Spanish Peseta	€1,00 = ESP	166,386
Greek Drachma	€1,00 = GRD	340,750
Irish Punt	€1,00 = IEP	0,787564
Finnish Markka	€1,00 = FIM	5,94573
Austrian Shilling	€1,00 = ATS	13,7603
Maltese Lira	€1,00 = MTL	0,429300
Cyprus Pound	€1,00 = CYP	0,585274

Example of converting amount in Dutch Guilders into euro:

$f178,35 = 178,35 \div 2,20371 = 80,9317 = \text{€}80,93$
fixed rate: €1,00 = f2,20371
 It is not allowed to round off the fixed rate!
 It is not allowed to divide by 0,45 ($1 \div 2,20371 = 0,45$)

Example of converting amount in euro Into Dutch Guilders:

$\text{€}239,26 = 239,26 \times 2,20371 = 527,259 = f527,26 = f527,26 = 527,25$ cash (the smallest denomination is 5 Dutch cents)
fixed rate: €1,00 = f2,20371
 It is not allowed to round off the fixed rate!

Example of converting amount in Dutch Guilders into other EMU-currencies:

First you must convert the Dutch Guilders into euro.

$f34,50 \div 2,20371 = 15,6554 = \text{€}15,655$
fixed rate: €1,00 = f2,20371

The amount in euro may be rounded off to 3 decimals. (not less!)

The amount in euro must then be converted into, for example, German Marks.

$\text{€}15,655 = 15,655 \times 1,95583 = 30,618 = \text{DM } 30,62$
fixed rate: €1,00 = DM 1,95583

Important dates:

Countries	End of legal tender status for national currencies	Limit for exchange of national currencies by the National Central Banks	
Germany	31-Dec-2001 The DEM was accepted in shops until 28 February 2002.	coins: indefinite banknotes: indefinite	
the Netherlands	28-Jan-2002	coins: 1-Jan-2007 banknotes: 1-Jan-2032	
Ireland	9-Feb-2002	coins: indefinite banknotes: indefinite	
France	17-Feb-2002	coins: 17-Feb-2005 banknotes: 17-Feb-2012	
Austria	28-Feb-2002	coins: indefinite banknotes: indefinite	
Belgium		coins: 31-Dec-2004 banknotes: indefinite	
Finland		coins: 28-Feb-2012 banknotes: 28-Feb-2012	
Greece		coins: 28-Feb-2004 banknotes: 28-Feb-2012	
Italy		coins: 28-Feb-2012 banknotes: 28-Feb-2012	
Luxembourg		coins: 31-Dec-2004 banknotes: 28-Feb-2012	
Portugal		coins: 31-Dec-2002 banknotes: 28-Feb-2022	
Spain		coins: indefinite banknotes: indefinite	
Slovenia		14-Jan-2007	coins: 31-Dec-2016 banknotes: indefinite
Malta		31-Jan-2008	coins: 31-Dec-2009 banknotes: 31-Dec-2017
Cyprus	31-Jan-2008	coins: 1-Feb-2010 banknotes: 31-Jan-2018	

See www.eurozoneinfo.eu for more information.

On the next pages you can see all the euro coins and banknotes. (They are not true size!) Coins have a national side and a common European side. All coins can be used throughout the EMU regardless of their national side. Colour differences are due to varying sources of the images.



Banknote design information:

All seven denominations, as drawn by Mr. Robert Kalina, are typical of the different European artistic periods:

5 euro	Classical
10 euro	Romanesque
20 euro	Gothic
50 euro	Renaissance
100 euro	Baroque and Rococo
200 euro	Iron and glass architecture
500 euro	Modern 20th century architecture

They do not represent any existing monuments.

Windows and gateways dominate the front side of each banknote as symbols of the spirit of openness and cooperation in the EU.

The reverse side of each banknote features a bridge from a particular age, a metaphor for communication among the people of Europe and between Europe and the rest of the world.

Other elements of the designs include:

- The flag of the European Union
- The name of the currency in the Roman and Greek alphabets
- The initials of the European Central Bank in their official language variants
- The copyright (©) symbol to indicate the copyright protection
- The signature of the President of the ECB.

Serial number hints at country of origin:

Every banknote has a serial number consisting of 1 letter and 11 digits.

A serial code looks like X01234567890 printed in black on the side which also features the map of Europe.

The letter can (for now) be linked to the country where the banknote was produced. The letters, when sorted in reverse alphabetical order starting with the letter Z, give a list of countries generally in alphabetical order when the name of each country is in its official language.

Z	Belgium
Y	Greece
X	Germany
W	Denmark *
V	Spain
U	France
T	Ireland
S	Italy
R	Luxembourg
P	The Netherlands
N	Austria
M	Portugal
L	Finland
K	Sweden *
J	United Kingdom *

* = For the EU countries outside of the eurozone letters seem to have been reserved.

In future individual eurozone countries will produce only one banknote value each. Then the value of the banknote will be the indication of the country of origin (together with the date).

	2 euro	1 euro	50 cent	20 cent	10 cent	5 cent	2 cent	1 cent
Common side								
New common side (fased in from 2007)								
Austria								
Belgium								
Cyprus								
Finland								
France								

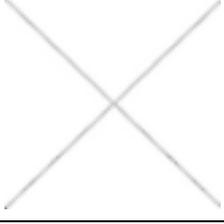
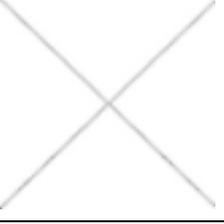
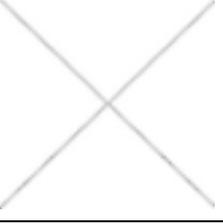
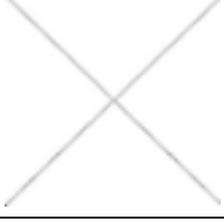
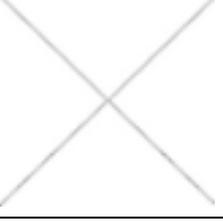
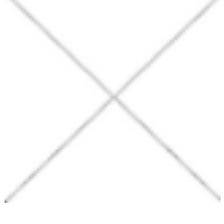
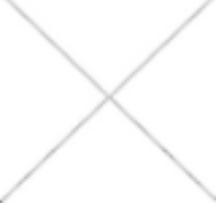
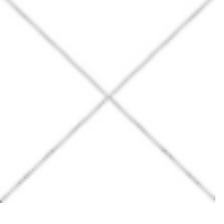
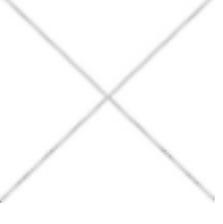
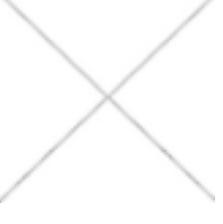
	2 euro	1 euro	50 cent	20 cent	10 cent	5 cent	2 cent	1 cent
Germany								
Greece								
Ireland								
Italy								
Luxembourg								
Malta								
the Netherlands								

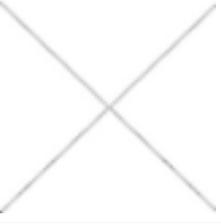
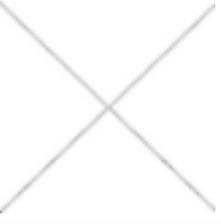
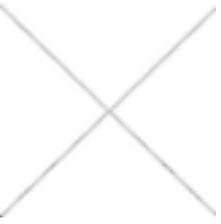
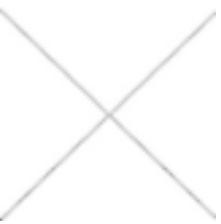
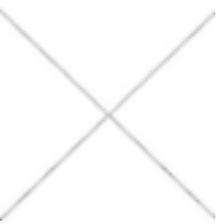
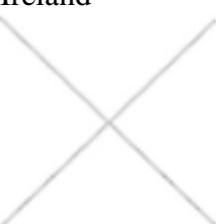
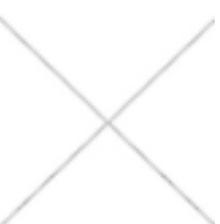
	2 euro	1 euro	50 cent	20 cent	10 cent	5 cent	2 cent	1 cent
Portugal								
Spain								
Slovenia								
Monaco (first series: Prins Rainier and second series: Prince Albert)								
San Marino								
Vatican (first series: John Paul II, second series: Sede Vacante 2005 and third series: Benedictus XVII)								

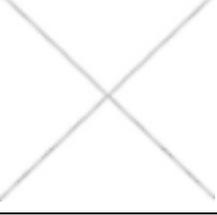
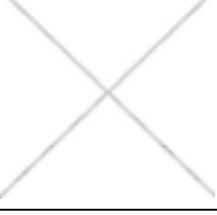
see next page for remaining series

2 euro	1 euro	50 cent	20 cent	10 cent	5 cent	2 cent	1 cent
Vatican (<i>Second and third series continued from previous page</i>)							
							
							

Commemorative 2 euro coins:

2004	2005	2006	2007	2007 Rome	2008
Common 					
Austria 					?
Belgium 					?
Cyprus 					?

2004	2005	2006	2007	2007 Rome	2008
Finland 					?
France 					?
Germany 					
Greece 					?
Italy 					?
Ireland 					?
Luxembourg 					?

2004	2005	2006	2007	2007 Rome	2008
Netherlands 					
Portugal 					?
Spain 					?
Slovenia 					?
Monaco 					?
San Marino 					?
Vatican 					?

Coin design information:

Common European side:

The European side of the coins was designed by Luc Luycx of the Royal Belgian Mint and depicts a map of the European Union against a background of parallel lines linking the 12 stars of the European Union flag.

These designs show variations of the map of Europe. After the EU-expansion the maps not showing the new members will be replaced by a new common European side. Due to production cycles some countries have been permitted to use the old common side for the normal coins in 2007. All 2 euro commemoratives from 2007 onwards have the new common side.

The 1 and 2 euro coins show a united Europe without frontiers. After the expansion the new design shows a larger Europe as a whole.

The 10, 20 and 50 cent coins depict Europe as a group of individual nations. After the expansion the new design shows a larger Europe as a whole.

The 1, 2 and 5 cent coins show Europe's place in the world.

Commemorative coins

2 euro coins: Each member state of the eurozone can issue a €2 commemorative coin once a year. These coins have the same features and properties and the same common side as normal €2 coins. What makes them different is their commemorative design on the national side.

Only the €2 denomination can be used for commemorative coins that are legal tender throughout the euro area, that means they can be used – and must be accepted – just like any other euro coin.

2007 Rome 2 euro coins: The anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Rome in 1957 will be celebrated on 25 March 2007. The eurozone countries have decided to mark the occasion by jointly issuing this commemorative coin.

The Treaty of Rome established the European Economic Community and ultimately led to the introduction of the euro in 1999 and euro banknotes and coins in 2002.

The coin shows the Treaty document signed by the six founding countries on a background evocating the paving (designed by Michelangelo) of the Piazza del Campidoglio in Rome, where the signing took place on 25 March 1957.

Coin features:

(top edge) 'Treaty of Rome 50 years'

(2) 'EUROPE'

(bottom edge) 'the name of the issuing country'

These features appear in the respective languages of the euro area or in Latin. Thus, the legend differs from country to country, but the image is the same.

The texts (1), (2) and (3) are:

Belgium: PACTVM ROMANVM, QVINQVAGENARIVM, EUROPA/E, BELGIQUE - BELGIË - BELGIEN

Germany: ROMISCHE VERTRAGE, 50 JAHRE, EUROPA, BUNDESREPUBLIK DEUTSCHLAND

Finland: ROOMAN SOPIMUS, 50 V, EUROOPPA, SUOMI - FINLAND

France: TRAITE DE ROME, 50 ANS, EUROPE, REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE

Greece: ΣΥΝΘΗΚΗ ΤΗΣ ΡΩΜΗΣ, 50 ΧΡΟΝΙΑ, ΕΥΡΩΠΗ, ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ

Ireland: CONRADH NA RÓIMHE, 50 BLIAIN, AN EORAIP, ÉIRE

Italy: TRATTATI DI ROMA, 50° ANNIVERSARIO, EUROPA, REPUBBLICA ITALIANA

Luxembourg: TRAITE DE ROME, 50 ANS, EUROPE, LETZEBUERG

Netherlands: VERDRAG VAN ROME, 50 JAAR, EUROPA, KONINKRIJK DER NEDERLANDEN

Austria: VERTRAG VON ROM, 50 JAHRE, EUROPA, REPUBLIK OSTERREICH

Portugal: TRATADO DE ROMA, 50 ANOS, EUROPA, PORTUGAL

Spain: TRATADO DE ROMA, 50 ANOS, ESPANA

Slovenia: RIMSKA POGODBA 50 LET, EVROPA, REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA

Other denomination commemorative coins: Other commemorative coins can be issued by member countries. For example: Germany has several 10 euro commemorative coins. These are NOT legal tender throughout the eurozone and therefore can be refused, especially by tourists!

The Netherlands

1 and 2 euro coins: Queen Beatrix is shown in profile with the words "Beatrix Queen of The Netherlands" in Dutch. The 12 stars are confined to half the circumference of the coin.

1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 cent coins: Queen Beatrix is shown in profile and the words "Beatrix Queen of The Netherlands" are written around the circumference of the coins.

Germany

1 and 2 euro coins: The traditional symbol of German sovereignty, the eagle, surrounded by the stars of Europe, appears on these coins.

10, 20 and 50 cent coins: The Brandenburg Gate, a symbol of the division of Germany and its subsequent unification, is the motif used on these coins. The perspective of the design emphasizes the opening of the gate, stressing the unification of Germany and Europe.

1, 2 and 5 cent coins: The oak twig, reminiscent of that found on the current German pfennig coins provides the motif for these coins.

All coins: All coins have a letter A,D,F,G or J printed on the national side. These letters correspond to the cities where the coins were minted, respectively: Berlin, Munich, Stuttgart, Karlsruhe and Hamburg.

2 euro commemorative coin 2006: Holstentor: The Federal Republic of Germany's series of €2 commemorative coins is designed to increase the European public's awareness of Germany's federal structure. The coins will be issued in the order of rotation of the Bundesrat presidency (the Upper House of the German parliament representing the federal states) and will begin with Schleswig-Holstein in 2006. The national side of the commemorative coin depicts the Holstentor (the famous city gate in Lübeck).

2 euro commemorative coin 2007: Schweriner Schloss: The coin features the Schweriner Schloss in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern.

2 euro commemorative coin 2008: Hamburgs 'Michel': The coin features the St. Michaelis in the Federal State of Hamburg.

France

1 and 2 euro coins: A tree appears on these coins, symbolising life, continuity and growth. It is contained in a hexagon and is surrounded by the motto of the Republic "Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité".

10, 20 and 50 cent coins: The theme of the sower is a constant in the history of the French franc. "This modern, timeless graphic represents France, which stays true to itself, whilst integrating into Europe".

1, 2 and 5 cent coins: This shows a young, feminine Marianne with determined features that embody the desire for a sound and lasting Europe.

Austria

2 euro coin: This shows a portrait of the radical pacifist Bertha von Suttner, a symbol of Austria's efforts over many decades to support peace.

1 euro coin: This coin shows Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, the famous Austrian composer, depicting Austria as a land of music.

50 cent coin: This coin shows the secession building in Vienna, illustrating the birth of art nouveau in Austria and symbolizing the birth of a new age, representing a bridge to a new monetary era.

20 cent coin: This coin shows the Belvedere Palace, one of the most beautiful baroque palaces in Austria. This was where the Treaty re-establishing the sovereignty of Austria was signed in 1955, making its name synonymous with freedom.

10 cent coin: This depicts St. Stephen's Cathedral, one of the jewels of Viennese Gothic architecture and a popular tourist venue.

5 cent coin: This shows alpine primroses, as part of a floral series, symbolizing a duty to the environment and the part Austria is playing in the development of a Community environmental policy.

2 cent coin: This shows the edelweiss, again as part of a floral series, symbolizing a duty to the environment and the part Austria is playing in the development of a Community environmental policy.

1 cent coin: This coin shows a gentian, as the last part of the floral series, symbolizing a duty to the environment and the part Austria is playing in the development of a Community environmental policy.

2 euro commemorative coin 2005: 50th anniversary of the Austrian State Treaty: The centre of the coin shows a reproduction of the signatures and seals in the Austrian State Treaty, which was signed by the foreign ministers and ambassadors of the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, the United States and France, and by Leopold Figl, Foreign Minister of Austria, in May 1955. The inscription '50 JAHRE STAATSVERTRAG' appears above the seals and the year of issue, 2005, below them. The vertical stripes in the background represent Austria's national colours (red-white-red). The outer ring of the coin features the 12 stars of the EU.

Luxembourg

All coins in Luxembourg will bear the profile of His Royal Highness the Grand Duke Henri. They will bear the year of issue and the word "Luxembourg" written in Luxembourgish ("Letzebuerg").

2 euro commemorative coin 2004: Effigy and monogram of Grand-Duke Henri: The coin depicts on the left hand of the inner part the effigy of His Royal Highness, the Grand-Duke Henri, looking to the right, and on the right hand the monogram of the Grand-Duke Henri (special letter 'H' topped with a crown). The 12 stars appear in semi-circular form at the right of the monogram. The year 2004, surrounded by the mint mark as well as the engraver's initials, and the word LËTZEBUERG are written in circular form at the top of the ring. The words 'HENRI — Grand-Duc de Luxembourg' appear at the bottom of the ring.

2 euro commemorative coin 2005: 50th birthday of Grand Duke Henri, 5th anniversary of his accession to the throne and 100th anniversary of the death of Grand Duke Adolphe: Depicted in the centre of the coin is the effigy of Grand Duke Henri, looking to the right and superimposed on the effigy of Grand Duke Adolphe. Above the effigies appears the legend 'GRANDS-DUCS DE LUXEMBOURG'. The names 'HENRI', set above '*1955', and 'ADOLPHE', set above '†1905', are inscribed below the respective effigies. On the outer ring of the coin, the 12 stars of the EU surrounding the design are placed between the letters of the word 'LËTZEBUERG' and the year of issue, 2005, with the latter centred below the effigies and flanked by the letter 'S' on the left and the logo of the mint on the right.

2 euro commemorative coin 2006: 25th birthday of Grand-Duke Guillaume, heir to the throne: The effigy of Grand-Duke Henri is superimposed on that of Grand-Duke Guillaume in the centre of the coin.

2 euro commemorative coin 2007: Grand-Duke Henri and his palace: The coin bears an image of Grand-Duke Henri with his residential palace in the city of Luxembourg.

Ireland

All coins show the Celtic harp, a traditional symbol of Ireland, decorated with the year of issue and the word "Eire" - the Irish word for Ireland.

Portugal

1 and 2 euro coins: Here the country's castles and coats of arms are set amid the European stars. This symbolizes dialogue, the exchange of values and the dynamics of the building of Europe. The centerpiece is the royal seal of 1144.

10, 20 and 50 cent coins: These depict the royal seal of 1142 as the centerpiece of the design.

1, 2 and 5 cent coins: These show the first royal seal, from 1134, along with the word "Portugal".

2 euro commemorative coin 2007: Presidency of the Council of the EU The coin commemorates the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

Italy

2 euro coin: This depicts a portrait drawn by Raphaël of Dante Alighieri, housed in the Pope Julius II Wing of the Vatican Palace.

1 euro coin: This coin shows the famous drawing by Leonardo da Vinci, displayed in the gallery of the Academy in Venice, illustrating the ideal proportions of the human body.

50 cent coin: This depicts the statue of Emperor Marcus Aurelius on horseback.

20 cent coin: This coin portrays a sculpture by Umberto Boccioni, leader of the Italian futurist school.

10 cent coin: This commemorates one of the greatest triumphs in Italian art. It shows one of the most famous works in the world, the "Birth of Venus" by Sandro Botticelli.

5 cent coin: This shows the Flavian amphitheatre, which Emperor Vespasian began building around 75 AD and Emperor Titus inaugurated in 80 AD.

2 cent coin: This shows the Mole Antonelliana, a tower designed in 1863 by Alessandro Antonelli.

1 cent coin: The Castel del Monte appears on this coin.

2 euro commemorative coin 2004: Fifth decade of the World Food Programme: In the centre is the globe, tilted to the right and bearing the inscription 'WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME'. An ear of wheat, an ear of maize and an ear of rice, the three grains representing the world's basic sources of nourishment, emerge from behind the globe. To the right of the globe is an 'I' superimposed on an 'R', denoting 'Repubblica Italiana', below which there appears a smaller combination of the letters U and P, the initials of the engraver, Uliana Pernazza. To the upper left of the globe is the mint mark 'R' and under the globe is the year – '2004'. The 12 stars of the European Union are positioned around the outer circle.

2 euro commemorative coin 2005: Signing of the European Constitution: The centre of the coin features Europa and the bull, with Europa holding a pen and the text of the European Constitution. The words 'COSTITUZIONE EUROPEA' form a semicircle along the outer ring of the coin beneath the central image, while twelve stars are depicted on the remainder of the outer ring.

2 euro commemorative coin 2006: XX Olympic Winter Games - Turin 2006: An image of a skier, a dynamic, curvilinear figure, is in the centre of the coin. Above him are the words 'GIOCHI INVERNALI' and to his left the location of the Winter Games is marked by the word 'TORINO' and an image of Turin's landmark Mole Antonelliana building.

Belgium

All coins depict King Albert II and a monogram - a capital "A" underneath a crown - among 12 stars, symbolizing Europe. The year of issue is part of the design, along with the year the coin was struck.

2 euro commemorative coin 2005: Belgium-Luxembourg Economic Union: The effigies of Grand Duke Henri of Luxembourg and King Albert II of Belgium are depicted in profile (from left to right) in the centre of the coin, above the year of issue, 2005. The engraver's initials, 'LL', appear to the lower right. The two effigies and the date are surrounded by the outer ring bearing the 12 stars of the EU and the monograms of Grand Duke Henri on the left and of King Albert II on the right. The mintmarks appear between two stars near the bottom of the coin.

2 euro commemorative coin 2006: Reopening of the Atomium: An image of Atomium-building in Brussels is shown in the centre of the coin.

Finland

2 euro coin: This shows cloudberry and cloudberry flowers.

1 euro coin: A motif depicting two flying swans issued to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the independence of Finland.

1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 cent coins: These show a heraldic lion. The heraldic lion in different designs has been used in several Finnish coins over the years.

2 euro commemorative coin 2004: Enlargement of the European Union by ten new Member States: The design describes a stylised pillar from which the sprouts grow upwards. The sprouts represent the enlargement of the European Union. The pillar represents the foundation for growth. Near the pillar there are the letters 'EU'. In the upper part of the coin there is the year '2004'. Twelve stars, together with the year, surround the design.

2 euro commemorative coin 2005: UN anniversary: The 60th anniversary of the United Nations and 50th anniversary of Finland's membership of the UN. The inner part of the coin depicts a dove of peace made up of pieces of a jigsaw puzzle. Round the left-hand edge of the lower part of the inner circle is the inscription "FINLAND - UN".

2 euro commemorative coin 2006: 100th anniversary of universal and equal suffrage: The inner part of the coin shows male and female faces separated by a line.

2 euro commemorative coin 2007: 90th anniversary of Finland's independence: The coin shows a nine-oar boat with rowers, symbolising collaboration. The year of issue, 2007, and the year of independence, 1917, appear above and below the image.

Spain

1 and 2 euro coins: These show a portrait of King Carlos I de Borbon y Borbon.

10, 20 and 50 cent coins: Miguel de Cervantes, the father of Spanish literature, is shown on these coins, reflecting "the universality of the man and his work".

1, 2 and 5 cent coins: The cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, a jewel of Spanish Roman art and one of the most famous pilgrimage destinations in the world is pictured on these coins. They show the monumental façade of the Obradoiro, a splendid example of Spanish baroque construction, started in 1667 by Jose del Toro and Domingo de Andrade. It was finished in the 18th century by Fernando Casas y Novoa.

2 euro commemorative coin 2005: 4th centenary of the 1st edition of Cervantes' 'The ingenious gentleman Don Quixote of La Mancha': The centre of the coin features an image of Don Quixote holding a lance, with windmills in the background. To the left, impressed into the surface of the coin, is the word 'ESPAÑA', under which the mintmark 'M' appears. The 12 stars of the European Union are shown in the outer ring of the coin, with four of them impressed into the surface. The year of issue is indicated at the bottom.

Greece

2 euro coin: This coin depicts a scene from a mosaic in Sparta (third century AD), showing Europa being abducted by Zeus, who has taken the form of a bull. Europa is a figure from Greek mythology after whom Europe was named.

1 euro coin: This coin shows an owl, copied from an ancient Athenian 4 drachma coin (fifth century BC).

50 cent coin: Eleftherios Venizelos (1864-1936), one of Greece's most prominent political figures, is shown on this coin. He was a pioneer in social reform, a renowned diplomat and played a key role in modernizing the Greek state and liberating Northern Greece and the Aegean islands.

20 cent coin: This coin commemorates Ioannis Capodistrias (1776-1831), a leading national and European politician and diplomat who became the first Governor of Greece (1830-31) following the Greek War of Independence (1821-27).

10 cent coin: Rigas-Fereos (Velestinlis) (1757-98) is featured on this coin. He was a forerunner and leading figure of the Greek enlightenment and confederation. He was a visionary of Balkan liberation from Ottoman rule.

5 cent coin: It shows a modern sea-going tanker, reflecting the innovative spirits of Greek shipping.

2 cent coin: This coin depicts a corvette, a type of ship used during the Greek War of Independence (1821-27).

1 cent coin: This motif shows an advanced model of an Athenian trireme, the largest warship afloat for more than 200 years, dating from the time of the Athenian democracy (fifth century BC).

2 euro commemorative coin 2004: Olympic Games in Athens 2004: The twelve stars of the European Union positioned around the outer circle surround the design of an ancient statue depicting a discobolus in his attempt to throw the discus. The base of the statue covers a small part of the coin's external ring (outer part). To the left is the logo of the Olympic Games 'ATHENS 2004' and the five Olympic circles, and to the right, one above the other, are the figure '2' and the word 'EURO'. The yearmark is written in split form around the star positioned bottom centre, as follows: 20*04 and the mintmark is above the athlete's head to the left.

Slovenia

2 euro coin: This coin shows the poet France Prešeren and, along the edge, S L O V E N I J A.

1 euro coin: This coin features Primož Trubar, author of the first book printed in Slovene.

50 cent coin: 50 cent national side This coin depicts the Triglav mountain.

20 cent coin: This coin shows Lipizzaner horses.

10 cent coin: This coin features architect Jože Plečnik's unrealised plan for the Slovenian Parliament.

5 cent coin: This coin depicts a sower.

2 cent coin: This coin shows the Sovereign Enthronement Stone.

1 cent coin: This coin features a stork.

Cyprus

1 and 2 euro coins: These show a cruciform idol from the Chalcolithic period (3000 BC). This characteristic example of the island's prehistoric art reflects Cyprus's place at the heart of civilisation and antiquity.

10, 20 and 50 cent coins: The Kyrenia ship, a trading vessel which dates back to the fourth century BC and a symbol of Cyprus's seafaring history and its importance as a centre of trade.

1, 2 and 5 cent coins: A moufflon, a species of wild sheep found on Cyprus and representative of the island's wildlife.

Malta

1 and 2 euro coins: These show the emblem used by the Sovereign Order of Malta. During the Order's rule over Malta, between 1530 and 1798, the eight-pointed cross became associated with the island and is now often referred to as the Maltese Cross.

10, 20 and 50 cent coins: The Emblem of Malta, a shield displaying a heraldic representation of the Maltese national flag and supporting a mural crown that represents the fortifications of Malta and denotes a city state. The shield is bounded on the left by an olive branch and on the right by a palm branch, symbols of peace traditionally associated with Malta, forming a wreath tied at its base by a ribbon which carries the inscription "Repubblika ta' Malta"

1, 2 and 5 cent coins: The altar at the prehistoric temple complex of Mnajdra, built around 3600 BC on a low elevation overlooking the sea.

San Marino

2 euro coin: The government palace of San Marino. The front is decorated with the coats of arms of the eight castellets (administrative districts of San Marino).

1 euro coin: The coat of arms of San Marino.

50 cent coin: Monte Titano, a total view of all three towers of this fortress.

20 cent coin: Saint Marino, the father of the small republic. He holds a model of the old town in his left hand and the coat of arms, which can be found on the 1 euro coin.

10 cent coin: Basilica del Santo, built in 1826 in a classic style.

5 cent coin: The La Guaita fortress with a bell tower.

2 cent coin: The Liberty statue on the Piazza della Liberta in front of the government palace.

1 cent coin: The Il Montale tower that contains an 8m deep 13th century dungeon.

2 euro commemorative coin 2004: Bartolomeo Borghesi (historian, numismatist): The twelve stars of the European Union positioned around the outer circle of the coin and the issuing year '2004', positioned bottom centre, surround the bust of Bartolomeo Borghesi. To the left of the bust is the inscription 'Bartolomeo Borghesi', and one above the other are the letter 'R' and the engraver's initials 'E.L.F.'. To the right of the bust is the word 'San Marino'.

2 euro commemorative coin 2005: World Year of Physics: The motif of the coin is a free interpretation of the allegorical painting known as "La Fisica Antica", which shows Galileo Galilei observing the stars. The name San Marino is inscribed round the upper half of the inner circle while the words ANNO MONDIALE DELLA FISICA appear in the lower half. The 12 stars of the European Union are depicted on the outer ring, alternating with a stylised representation of an atom which likewise encircles the coin.

2 euro commemorative coin 2006: 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' death: The coin shows Christopher Columbus and three caravels.

2 euro commemorative coin 2007: Giuseppe Garibaldi: The coin commemorates the 200th Birthday anniversary of Giuseppe Garibaldi.

Vatican

All coins in the John Paul II series show the profile of His Holiness John Paul II, Monarch of the Vatican City State.

All coins in the Sede Vacante series show the heraldic arms of the Cardinal Camerlingo and of the Apostolic Camera (two keys in saltire surmounted by a canopy). this is the symbol of the vacancy of the See after the death of Pope John Paul II and before the election of Pope Benedict XVI.

All coins in the Benedict XVI series show the profile of His Holiness Benedict XVI, Monarch of the Vatican City State.

2 euro commemorative coin 2004: 75th anniversary of the founding of the Vatican City State: The inner part shows a schematic representation of the perimeter walls of the Vatican City with St Peter's Basilica in the foreground. Also in the inner part are the inscriptions '75 o ANNO DELLO STATO' and '1929-2004' as well as, in smaller letters, the name of the designer 'VEROI' and the initials of the

engraver 'L.D.S. INC.'. The outer part of the coin features the twelve stars of the European Union and the inscription 'CITTA' DEL VATICANO'.

2 euro commemorative coin 2005: WORLD DAY OF YOUTH - Cologne 2005: This coin commemorates the World Day Of Youth and shows the Cologne Cathedral as well as the star of Bethlehem with the Italian inscription "XX Giornata Mondiale della Gioventù".

2 euro commemorative coin 2006: 5th Centenary of the Swiss Pontifical Guard: . The coin features a Swiss guard taking an oath of loyalty to the Pope. The inscription 'GUARDIA SVIZZERA PONTIFICIA' forms a semi-circle around the guard, while under the flag appears the name of the issuing state, 'CITTÀ DEL VATICANO'.

2 euro commemorative coin 2007: 80th Birthday anniversary of Pope Benedict XVI: . The coin bears an alternate image of Pope Benedict XVI and celebrates his 80th birthday anniversary.

Monaco

2 euro coin: The center of the coin depicts the right profile of H.S.H. The Sovereign Prince Rainier III. Around the perimeter of each coin the inscription MONACO is printed on the top, year and the hallmark on the bottom, and twelve stars are divided between the right and left sides. Engraved on the edge of the coin a series of two stars repeated six times is positioned alternatively right side up and up side down.

2 euro coin since 2006: The center of the coin depicts H.S.H. The Sovereign Prince Albert.

1 euro coin: The center of the coin depicts the right profiles of LL.AA.SS. The Sovereign Prince and The Hereditary Prince Albert. Around the perimeter of each coin the inscription MONACO is printed on the top, the year and the hallmark on the bottom, and twelve stars are divided between the right and left sides.

1 euro coin since 2006: The center of the coin depicts H.S.H. The Sovereign Prince Albert.

50, 20, 10 cent coins: The center of the coin bears the Grimaldi seal. It is a seal of the founders of Monaco, Admiral Rainier Grimaldi and Charles Grimaldi, the first Seigneur of Monaco. This seal has appeared since 1950 on the coins of H.S.H. Sovereign Prince Rainier III. Around the perimeter of each coin the inscription MONACO is printed on the top, the year and hallmark on the bottom, and twelve stars are divided between the right and left sides.

50, 20, 10 cent coins since 2006: The center of the coin bears the seal of H.S.H The Sovereign Prince Albert.

5, 2, 10 cent coins: The center of the coin bears the Grimaldi coat of arms. Around the perimeter of each coin the inscription MONACO is printed on the top, the year and the hallmark on the bottom, and twelve stars are divided between the right and left sides.

2 euro commemorative coin 2007: Princess Grace:.. The coin bears an image of Princess Grace Kelly. This is the first 2 euro commemorative coin for Monaco.