

Newsletter 2/2015  
Stamps & Philately Working  
Group

To all Members of the PostEurop  
Stamps and Philately Group

Brussels, 15 July 2015

Dear Members,

Our joint stamp project on the "Think Green" theme is proceeding and we have now reached an agreement regarding copyrights of the winning design. The agreement was signed by Mr. Botond Szebeny (Secretary General of PostEurop), Mr. Andreas Gregoriou (Director of Postal Services of Cyprus Post) and Ms. Doxia Sergidou, the artist of the winning design. Enclosed, you will find the signed agreement in French and a translation in English.

PostEurop now owns the copyright to the original to be used on stamps by the **authorized countries and territories**.

As there many technical questions about the joint stamp issue, I also enclose the regulations for EUROPA stamp issues as agreed by the Members and the PostEurop Management Board.

**Here are some frequently asked questions;**

Q. May we implement the name "Think Green" in our own language?

A. Yes, that is up to you.

Q. May we adjust the size of the stamp?

A. Yes, the printing houses may use different sizes and perforations, so feel free to adjust the size.

Q. May we issue a block with the winner and our own design?

A. If the customer so wishes, you must be able to sell the customer one single stamp and not force the customer to buy a block.

Combining the joint image with your own image will create a number of different variations and this procedure is not in accordance with the regulations.

Q. May we adjust the colours on the stamp?

A. No, you may not. No deliberate adjustment in colours is allowed.

Q. May we use the design on maximum cards?

A. Yes, you may (ref. agreement, point 4f).

Q. If we issue two EUROPA stamps, may we give the stamps different names?

A. Yes, you may. However, please bear in mind that the name of the joint design is "Think Green". The name for the second stamp is free for you to choose.

- Q. We would like to issue only our own Think Green design. Is that acceptable?
- A. No, it is not. **You must use the winning design** for your EUROPA stamp to be allowed to issue a possible second stamp on the same theme and have the EUROPA logo on it. Ref. Newsletter 2-2014.

## Confirmation

To get a better picture of how many of the Members are participating in the project, we kindly ask you to confirm your participation by e-mailing Mr Antonio Amaral, e-mail [antonio.amaral@posteurop.org](mailto:antonio.amaral@posteurop.org) before 11 September 2015.

As mentioned earlier, and to avoid possible misunderstandings, please send the final image of your stamp to the Chair of the Stamp & Philately WG Anita Häggblom, e-mail [anita.haggblom@posten.ax](mailto:anita.haggblom@posten.ax), before printing your Think Green stamp.

## Joint folder

In my Newsletter 4-2014 I wrote about the possibility to produce a joint "Think Green" folder. Unfortunately, the response and interest for this product was not high enough, and some Members were not prepared to **donate** stamps to the producer of the folder. Consequently, the Working Group is now looking for other options to the folder.

## Illegals

At the end of the agreement you will find a list of the countries and territories that today have the right to issue EUROPA stamps. We are aware that in other regions, without permission, they illegally use the EUROPA logo and pretend to be a part of the collection area and alternatively use a logo that is similar to our EUROPA logo. To increase the awareness and strengthen the trademark of EUROPA stamps, we must all do our utmost to make the trade (collectors, dealers, magazines, album and catalogue manufacturers etc) aware of the problem and to be very clear about which stamps are official EUROPA stamps.

For that we need your help. Stamp & Philately WG will prepare a press release to be sent to the trade press. We need your help with the distribution of the press release.

Yours sincerely

**Anita Häggblom**

Chairman of PostEurop's Stamps and Philately WG

AGREEMENT ON CONCESSION OF THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS  
(COPYRIGHT) FOR THE "THINK GREEN" COMPETITION

AGREEMENT signed on 12 June 2015.

Between

the Republic of Cyprus, through the Director of the Department of Postal Services, located at Prodromos address 100, 2063 Strovolos, Nicosia,

and

Ms Doxias Sergidou, ID 805 453, creator of the stamp "Think Green" hereinafter: "Think Green", living on the street Zidros 21 Apt. 101, 2314 Lakatamia, Cyprus, who hereinafter will be referred as the "creator"

and the international non-profit organization PostEurop AISBL, located at Boulevard Brand Whitlock 114, 1200 Brussels, Belgium,

hereinafter referred as the "Parties",

Because the Association for European Public Postal Operators , hereinafter referred as «PostEurop AISBL» has established an annual pan-European thematic stamp contest with the participation of all its Members , which are obliged to organize a relevant national competition under one specific procedure and conditions laid down by PostEurop AISBL and

Because the Department of Postal Services of the Republic of Cyprus participated in the abovementioned pan-European contest conducted with the occasion of 60 years from the issuance of the first series of commemorative stamps "Europa / Europe" with the topic: "Think Green", with stamp design submitted by the creator, hereinafter called "the project" and

Because the project ranked first in the competition and

Because, the project selected through this process is the one to be issued by the Member participated in the «EUROPA 2016» series (common version)

The Parties agree as follows:

1. This Agreement is the definitive acceptance of the project, a copy of which is attached as an annex to this Agreement and the concession of the relevant rights to PostEurop AISBL.
2. The Parties agree the creator to grant the the copyright of the project to PostEurop AISBL, all its Members – postal operators, and other third parties that , will issue the stamps of the «EUROPA 2016» series
3. The Parties agree the direct, exclusive and definitive concession of the copyright in relation to the project from the creator to PostEurop AISBL without any further compensation to the creator, in addition to the remuneration received by the Cyprus Post in the form of the award for her work, as mentioned in paragraph eight (8) of this Agreement.
4. The Parties agree that the rights mentioned in paragraph 2 include in particular the exclusive rights of:

- a. the project's exhibition
  - b. the reproduction of the project with the aim to create the stamps in any possible form, including reproduction in the form of stamps dated with project's elements.
  - c. the adjustment and modification of the project especially with regard to the adjustment of the layout of the letters, the digits and the recorded value as well as the colors and the details that should be adjusted for technical reasons
  - d. the total or partial use of the project for informative and promotional purposes as well as for marketing purposes
  - e. the reproduction of the relevant stamps in magazines addressed to the customers or the staff of the postal operators which are Members of PostEurop AISBL
  - f. the reproduction of the project, in whatever form, on collectible items (such as First Day of release envelopes, greeting cards, commemorative cards, books, electronic devices / gadgets.) with the aim to release it into the market
5. Unless agreed with another agreement between the Parties, the above mentioned rights are granted entirely and exclusively and the creator will no longer be able to exploit the project.
6. The creator certifies that it possesses all the copyrights that duly allow her to grant the rights referred in this Agreement and that she has received, for this occasion, the necessary prior authorization of third persons who likely involved in the creation of the project or created a part of the project.
7. The creator is entirely and exclusively responsible, and shall reimburse PostEurop AISBL or/and the Postal Services of the Republic of Cyprus, for any consequence, any third party's claim related to an infringement of this third person's copyright from the Members – postal operators of PostEurop AISBL due to the use of the project in accordance with this Agreement.
8. According to the notice of the competition, the Department of Postal Services of the Republic of Cyprus is responsible for the financial arrangements occurred with respect to the copyright, and the creator has no other claim against the parties in this Agreement.
9. The creator commits to inform immediately and on paper PostEurop AISBL in case of adaptation of an original project.
10. This Agreement shall be governed and interpreted under the legislation of the Republic of Cyprus and the Cypriot Courts will have the jurisdiction in case of any infringement of this Agreement.
11. This Agreement is concluded in two original copies in Greek and French language, each copy being equally authentic. In case of divergence in the interpretation, the Greek text will prevail.
12. This Agreement will come into power from the date of signature of both original copies from all Parties.

The Parties,

For the Government of the Republic of Cyprus  
(Postal Services)

Name: .....  
Title: .....  
Signature: .....  
Place and Date: .....

For PostEurop AISBL

Name: .....  
Title: .....  
Signature: .....  
Place and Date: .....

For the Creator

Name: .....  
Title: .....  
Signature: .....  
Place and Date: .....

## AGREEMENT 3.1

### Issue of EUROPA stamps within the PostEurop Framework

The Members of PostEurop and the Management Board of PostEurop decided that:

#### Aim and Definition

1. EUROPA stamps are special stamps issued by European postal administrations/enterprises under the aegis of PostEurop and which have Europe as their central theme
2. EUROPA stamps should underline co-operation in the domain of posts, particularly as regards the promotion of philately and contribute to making the public aware of common roots, culture and history of Europe and common goals

#### Authorisation to issue

1. All Members of PostEurop are authorised to issue EUROPA stamps
2. Postal administrations/enterprises of the Universal Postal Union who are not Members of PostEurop may also issue stamps, provided that they are part of the *European territory* and that they are committed to observing the current General Directives and Conditions for issuing EUROPA stamps within the framework of PostEurop.
3. *The authorized countries and territories are mentioned in Annex 1*

#### Scope

1. The EUROPA stamps are issued once a year
2. Each participating administration/enterprise must issue two stamps maximum
3. It is not allowed within the framework of the EUROPA stamp issues to increase the volume of stamps by making up special products, blocks, se-tenant values (blocks or sheets made up of different stamps)

#### Themes and designs

1. Every year, EUROPA stamps are included in a theme decided on by PostEurop
2. The participants themselves choose the design of their stamp, which shall be within the framework of the general theme
3. On certain special occasions (for example, an anniversary of one of the international postal organisations), PostEurop may recommend one single design

#### Production and sales of the stamp

1. The EUROPA stamps shall be produced in such a way that they are clearly recognised as such
2. They will have the characteristic protected EUROPA logo, in accordance with one of the provisions in Annex 2 without any additions, in an appropriate size, preferably the same size as that of the characters of the name of the country or postal enterprise mentioned
3. The use of any other logo together with Europa Logo is not allowed
4. The Europa logo must be on the stamp
5. The reproduction of political geographical maps is not permitted
6. Each participating operator should provide a sales channel to buy a single Europa stamp

#### Value of postage

1. The value of postage of a EUROPA stamp shall correspond to the charges most commonly used by the public for ordinary letters. In no event shall it exceed the rate for an airmail/priority letter in the first weight step in the European system
2. Surcharges (for example, in aid of charitable organisations) are not permitted

#### Date of issue

1. PostEurop recommend the date of issue of EUROPA stamps on the 9 May each year (Europe Day). In any case the Europa Stamps have to be issued before the end of June.

#### Quantity

1. The quantity of stamps shall be calculated in such a way that the demands of clients and collectors are satisfied during 12 months after the issued date
2. EUROPA stamps may not be produced in reduced amounts or be held back for speculative purposes

Notification of participation

1. Postal administrations/enterprises which take part in the issue shall inform PostEurop Headquarters before 15 February of each year of the details of their issue
2. The information in Annex 3 is necessary for the drawing up of an official list of all issues and a summary of useful information, including the addresses of philatelic services
3. Only the issues mentioned on PostEurop internet site will be considered official ( [www.posteurop.org](http://www.posteurop.org))

Protective measures

1. PostEurop has registered Europa logo internationally, for each member countries and territories.
2. Only administrations/enterprises which issue EUROPA stamps in accordance with the provisions of the current general Directives and conditions for issuing EUROPA stamps within the framework of PostEurop shall appear in the official list which shall be distributed as a Recommendation to philatelic organisations.

Europa stamp promotion

1. In order to promote the Europa stamp, PostEurop will organize each year a competition about the most beautiful stamp submitted to the contest.
2. There will be two prizes: the public prize from the online competition and a jury prize.
3. Only the competitors who complied with the rules will be allowed to enter the competitions and be part of the promotion spin offs.

Entry into force

The current General Directives and Conditions shall enter into force on 9 June 2011 and replace any previous document included Recommendation PO/TP 1 of the former CEPT.

3 annexes



**ANNEX 1**  
**(Art. 2)**

List of authorized countries and territories

The use of the Europa logo is exclusively authorized to the following countries and territories:

Aland  
Albania  
Andorra  
Armenia  
Austria  
Azerbaijan  
Belarus  
Belgium  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Bulgaria  
Croatia  
Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Estonia  
Faroe Islands  
Finland  
France  
FYROM  
Georgia  
Germany  
Gibraltar  
Greece  
Greenland  
Guernsey  
Hungary  
Iceland  
Ireland  
Isle of Man  
Italy  
Jersey  
Kazakhstan

Latvia  
Liechtenstein  
Lithuania  
Luxembourg  
Malta  
Moldova  
Monaco  
Montenegro  
Netherlands  
Norway  
Poland  
Portugal  
Romania  
Republic of Serbia  
Russian Federation  
San Marino  
Slovak Republic  
Slovenia  
Spain  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Turkey  
Ukraine  
United Kingdom  
Vatican City

**ANNEX 2**  
**(Art. 5)**

Variants of the EUROPA logo

**EUROPA**

**EUROPA**

**ANNEX 3**  
**(Art. 9)**

Notification concerning the issue of a EUROPA stamp within ....

1. The value of postage of the stamp
2. The date of issue
3. A brief description of the subject and a reproduction of the stamp or a draft of the stamp
4. The name and address of the service of the postal administration/ enterprise from which philatelists may obtain the EUROPA stamp
5. The sales price of the EUROPA stamp
6. The sales price of a first day cover with the stamp
7. If appropriate, the order numbers to be used
8. The different methods of payment accepted (including, if necessary, the giro or bank account number)
9. The print run