

Volume 1 Issue 5

September 2018



THE INTERNATIONAL MOLDOVAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

IMPS Newsletter

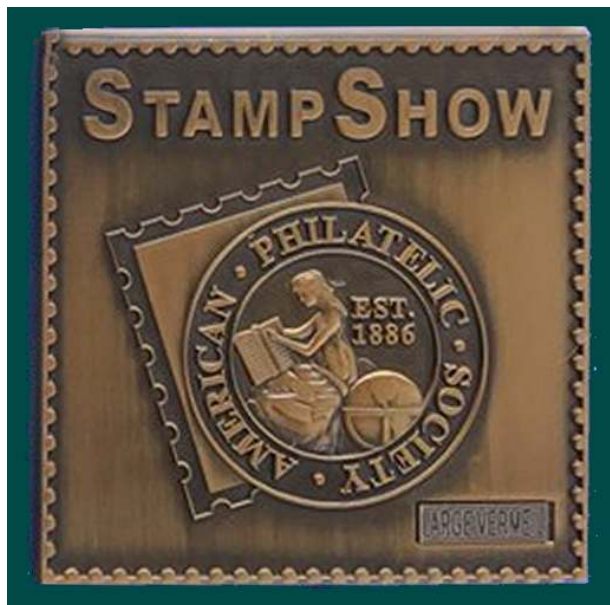
Moldova Triumphant in the USA

A Large Vermeil medal was awarded to our co-founder and friend, Gheorghe Plugaru, at the recent philatelic exhibition "STAMPSHOW 2018" organized by the American Philatelic Society (APS), in Columbus, Ohio, for his extensive 8 frame Maximaphily exhibit "Moldova - My Homeland"

"STAMPSHOW 2018" was the biggest and most important philatelic exhibition in the United States in 2018 and marked the 132nd annual convention of the American Philatelic Society.

The 2018 show featured over 10,000 pages of philatelic exhibits as well as 100+ dealers, societies, live auctions and literature exhibits.

Gheorghe thanked everyone for their kind words of congratulations: "This is primarily a success of the Post of Moldova, as the sole issuer of stamps and philatelic materials.

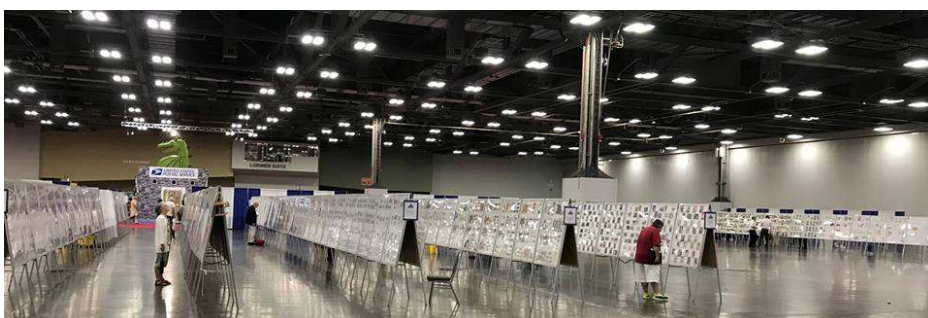


On this occasion, I would like to mention in particular, the creative team at the philatelic section "Timbrofil", lead by Victoria Tanase.

Many thanks to the wonderful workers Ala Nicoreanu and Elena Sarcanean, and to artists Vladimir Melnic, Vitaliu Pogolsa, Aliona and Oleg Cojocari, Vitalie Leca, Lilian Iatco and others,

who daily do tremendous work in the process of issuing these gorgeous pieces of jewelry."

Gheorghe continues: "On this occasion, I invite all amateurs in this hobby, especially young people, to try to exhibit. I am convinced that you will succeed." IMPS assures you that you will receive all the support you need."



Inside this issue...

Recent Issues...



Treasures of Moldovan Philately: Part III



Warning! Illegal First Day Covers...



Treasures of Moldovan Philately: Part III

The third part of a series of articles about the rare and valuable stamps of Moldova

Moving on from last month's study of the "Barcelona Olympics" issue, this month we look at the rare varieties of the issues "Membership of the United Nations" and "Membership of the OSCE", both issued on November 21, 1992.

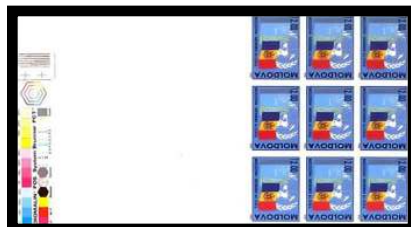
According to the official philatelic catalogue of Posta Moldovei, these issues were both printed in Bulgaria by the State printing house in Sofia. The material presented below is classified as colour proofs and was printed on card, without perforations or gum.

Although not confirmed, the material almost certainly originates from the personal collection of Michael Mittelstrass, the official philatelic agent/broker for Posta Moldovei at that time and whose name has been mentioned in previous articles.



Known varieties of No. 39P and No. 40P are in the form of imperforate proofs, printed on card and without gum.

In the case of the United Nations issue, imperforate proof stamps are known to exist both as individual stamps and in the form of small sheets of 9, with printer's technical data in the selvage. There is nothing in the technical information to show that that printing was performed in Bulgaria. Colours, text and designs appear to be identical to those of the final, issued stamps.



No. 39P and No. 40P are also known in the form of small sheets of 9.

In the case of the OSCE issue, the proofs are known in 3 varieties. No. 41P and 42P are identical to the issued stamps, but No. 42Pa is missing all text.



Top and middle: No. 41P and 42P, with colours and text identical to the issued stamps. Bottom: No. 42Pa is missing all text.

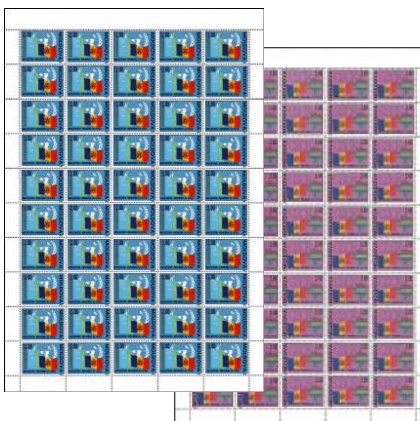
Again, the imperforate proof stamps are known to exist both as individual stamps and in the form of small sheets of 9, with printer's technical data in the selvage. In the case of the second sheet, we can see a mixture of No. 42P and 42Pa, but se-tenant pairs have never been seen, separated from the sheet.



No. 41P and Nos. 42P/42Pa are also known in the form of small sheets of 9.

In terms of rarity, we estimate that at most, 5 copies exist of each sheet exist. Expect to pay about 100 euro per stamp and at least 900-1,200 euro for each sheet.

Finally, it is interesting to note that No. 40 and 41 were also issued in the form of large sheets of 50 values. However, no intact examples have ever been seen. If either sheet ever comes to light, it would also command a premium price of around 400 euro.



Intact sheets of 50v for No. 40 and No. 41 have never been seen.

Warning! Illegal First Day Covers

In Moldova, it is permitted to bring an envelope or postcard, bearing genuine postage stamps, to the post office and have the envelope or postcard cancelled with the official first day cancellation. This permits the local stamp dealers to create "private" but perfectly legal and legitimate first day covers and maximum cards. The IMPS website catalogue attempts to list all known examples of these items. The "private" FDCs and MCs are clearly indicated and are categorised separately from the "official" emissions of the Moldovan postal authorities. IMPS encourages the practice of making private FDCs and maximum cards.

However, some dealers have made fake reproductions of the official FDC envelopes and then had them cancelled with the official first day postmark by unwitting workers at the Post Office. The dealers then sold these items as if they were official emissions of the postal authorities, whereas in truth, they are privately made.

IMPS wishes to discourage and denounce this practice for two main reasons: 1. collectors are being misled into believing that the material was officially emitted by the Moldovan postal authorities, which devalues and degrades the field of Moldovan Philately and 2. postage stamps, cancellations, envelopes and postcards, emitted by the Moldovan postal authorities are protected by copyright under Moldovan and international law. Any unauthorized physical reproduction of such material is in violation of those laws and is illegal.

In November 2011, we received a letter from Posta Moldovei confirming that it is illegal to make private first day covers which reproduce the cachet designs of the officially-emitted first day envelopes. Posta Moldovei have also confirmed that they will take actions against any person who is found to be producing or selling such material.

So, be warned! Always consult the IMPS catalogue if you have any doubts about the authenticity of any FDC. Some examples of illegal first days covers are illustrated here...



10 Years Ago...

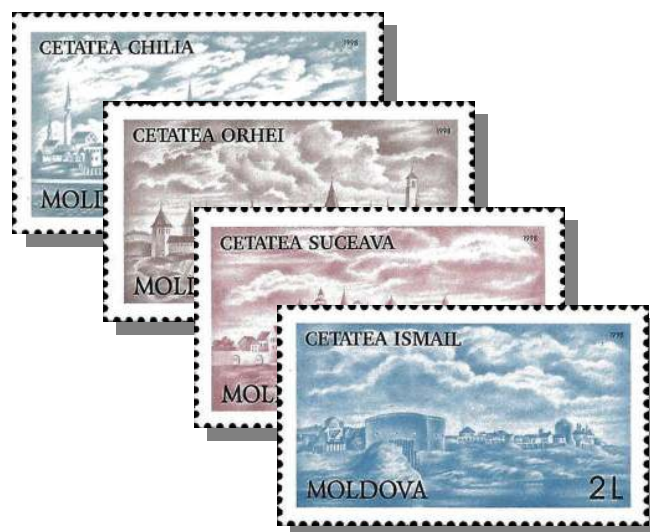
September 18, 2008 saw the release of the beautiful stamps "Deer", a joint issue between Moldova and Kazakhstan.



Full technical details at http://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_stamps_issue.asp?issueID=205

20 Years Ago...

September 26, 1998 saw the release of very elegant stamps "Moldavian Medieval Forts".



Full technical details at http://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_stamps_issue.asp?issueID=84

Recent Issues: “Domestic Poultry”

August 23 2018:

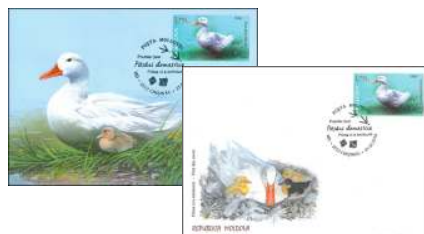
http://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_stamps_issue.asp?issueID=3011

On August 23, 2018, the Post of Moldova put into circulation a charming series of stamps devoted to domestic poultry.

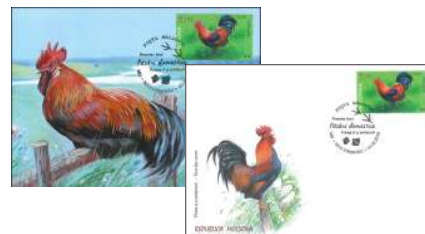
Unusually, each stamp had its own FDC and official maximum card. Official maximum cards are rarely issued by the Post of Moldova. Typically, they prefer to release picture postcards, based on the same theme, and then allow local philatelists to realize their own “private” maximum cards based on these.

Original artwork was provided by Vladimir Melnic and appears on the stamps, the official maximum cards and on the FDC cachets.

That being said, the Post of Moldova also released a set of four photographic postcards and the local philatelists did indeed make private maximum cards using these.



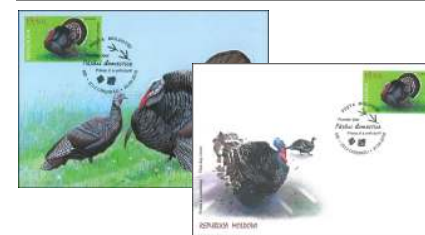
No. 1057 (1.70L) Domestic Duck



No. 1059 (5.75L) Cockerel (Rooster)



No. 1058 (4.00L) Domestic Goose

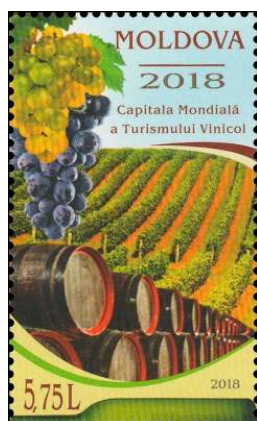


No. 1060 (15.40L) Domestic Turkey

Recent Issues: “2018: Moldova - World Capital of Wine Tourism”

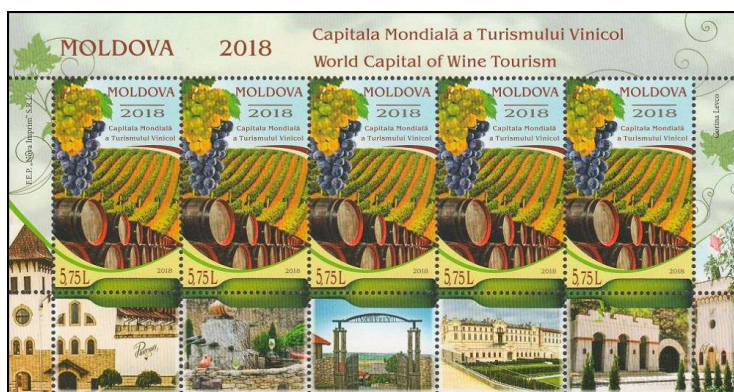
September 6 2018:

http://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_stamps_issue.asp?issueID=3046



On September 6, 2018, the Post of Moldova put into circulation an unscheduled stamp, “2018: Moldova - World Capital of Wine Tourism”.

This stamp was issued to commemorate the official UN World Tourist Organization Global Confer-



ence on Wine Tourism, in Chisinau, which started on the day of issue, September 6.

The minisheet is very interesting. While it appears, at first glance, that there are

five se-tenant labels, they are actually part of the sheet selvage.





**THE INTERNATIONAL MOLDOVAN
PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

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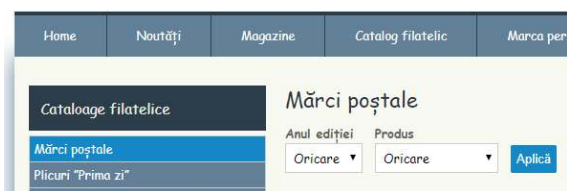
All articles and news should be sent to the
Editor at the email address above.

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***IMPS is founded on Friendship,
Equality and Passion.***



ÎS "Poșta Moldovei". Filatelie.



***Useful Link: The
Official Philatelic
Website of Posta
Moldovei—
Filatelia.md...***

We at IMPS find that the
official philatelic website of
Posta Moldovei to be an in-

dispensable resource for research and information, especially about new issues. Even
though the English language version is not complete, modern web browsers have
built-in translation, so reading pages in Romanian is not a problem.

The web site is very well maintained and information about new releases and planned
issues is provided very promptly. For anyone interested in Moldovan philately, this
site is definitely worth exploring! <http://www.filatelia.md/>

IMPS Website—Major Milestone Reached

We just reached a major mile-
stone in the development of
the IMPS website. The total
number of pages and images
included in the Google direc-
tory now exceeds 60,000!

The development of the IMPS
website, moldovastamps.org,
was first started in 2003. In
the 15 years since then, the
site is now one of the largest
philatelic resources in the
world.

The IMPS website has become the default reference point for catalogue publishers,
postal administrations, researchers and philatelists. We are cited in many Wikipedia
articles and we present not only a philatelic resource, but a source of history regarding
the development of the Republic of Moldova, since it's declaration in 1991.

Also, in late July, we also signed up our 200th member. IMPS is constantly growing.

Google
60,000 pages

Issues for September...

Date unconfirmed:

**Joint Issue: "Republic of Moldova, Ro-
mania, Ukraine - The Cucuteni–Trypillia
Culture" - Planned for September—
Postponed Until December.**

September 27:

**Envelope: Popular Folk
Orchestra "Foclor" -
50th Anniversary.**



Newsletters Archive...



International Moldovan Philatelic Society | IMPS
& Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the Republic of Moldova



The archive of previous IMPS news-
letters is now on the site.

www.moldovastamps.org/info-newsletters.asp