



Great Successes for Moldova in Belarus



The 10th national philatelic exhibition of Belarus, "BELPHILA-2019", was held between September 4 and 8 in the city of Brest which this year, celebrates its 1000th anniversary.

This exhibition appears to have been a tremendous success in terms of popularity and attendance and received an extremely high level of publicity both nationally and internationally.

This year was the very first time that the national exhibition of Belarus accepted digital material and websites into competition and the organizers expressed a desire to have participation from as many foreign countries as possible. Being avid sup-

porters of the propagation of philately using digital technology, IMPS was happy to assist and we made English-language publicity, world-wide, through social media and on our website.

The competition jury seem to have been highly impressed with our two entries:

For the IMPS website "MoldovaStamps.org", the editor and author, Niall Murphy, was awarded a gold medal with 97 points. This remarkable score is surely one of the highest, if not the very highest, ever awarded at a philatelic exhibition, in the Digital Literature class.

For this IMPS Newsletter, the editor was awarded a

large vermeil medal with 85 points. This is the first time we entered the Newsletter into philatelic competition and we were delighted with this score.

As usual and according to IMPS policy, all awards and medals are dedicated to the Republic of Moldova and to the nation.

In Belarus, we were delighted to have been joined by Posta Moldovei who participated with two exhibits:

Their one-frame physical exhibit showed a beautifully presented selection of material issued from 1991 to date. It was displayed, out of competition, in the Official class.

Their second exhibit, in the Literature class, a catalogue of issues for the year 2018, was awarded a large vermeil medal and 85 points.

You can read a full report on the exhibition, inside.



Inside this month's issue...

New stamp issue:
Festival of Opera and Ballet «Maria Bieșu»



Blog Archive:
History of Bessarabian Photography



New postmark:
Constantin Stamati - 150th Death Anniversary



Exhibition Report: “Belphila-2019” - Brest, Belarus

Belarus is a country where philately is still strongly supported, by the public, by the State and by the Post Office. As the national exhibition, “Belphila-2019” was certainly a very good showcase for this. Held between September 4 and 8 at the “Belarus” cinema in Brest, this exhibition was extremely well promoted and attended.

The exhibition had 140 participants from 16 countries and was officially opened by Konstantin Shulgan, Minister of Communications and Information Technologies.

The exhibition coincided with the 1000th anniversary of the founding of the city of Brest and for the opening ceremony, the Post Office of Belarus, “Belpochta”, issued a special souvenir sheet as well as a prepaid postal stationery envelope. Minister Shulgan, the Mayor of Brest, Alexander Rogachuk and the Chairman of the Belarusian Union of Philatelists, Sergey Pilipovich, took part in the special ceremony.

The Chief Commissioner for the exhibition and the man responsible for select-



Valery Andreyuk
(Photo Belpochta)

ing the exhibits was Valery Aldreyuk, a senior and highly respected philatelist, who was especially keen to attract participation from foreign philatelists,

especially those who were involved in digital literature and websites. Thanks to our friend, Vladimir Bernshtam, contact was made with Valery Aldreyuk and IMPS applied to participate with two digital exhibits, for the IMPS website and for this newsletter.

We were extremely impressed with Mr Andreyuk's attitude to digital material. Certainly in Belarus, this is the first national exhibition where such material was accepted into competition and in this sense, Mr Andreyuk is a true pioneer. We applaud his modern and progressive attitude to this medium, which we believe is the future of philately and philatelic exhibiting.

We also applaud the Organizing Com-



Opening Day of “BELPHILA-2019” was very well attended (Photo brestnote.by)

mittee for removing unnecessary restrictions from the exhibition regulations. There were no restrictions on nationality and applications were invited from all countries. Also there were no requirements to channel foreign applications through individual National Commissioners, thus removing a complete layer of complexity from the application process.



The exhibition had 140 participants from 16 countries

Additionally, we applaud the Organizing Committee for removing all exhibition fees. Such fees represent a real restriction to participation, not only for local citizens but also for foreigners when web-based payment services are not always available. The entire costs for the exhibition were funded by RUE “Belpochta”.

The positive attitudes of Valery Andreyuk and of the OC encouraged IMPS to offer full support for this exhibition by creating English-language advertising banners and posting promotions on social media and on the IMPS website. IMPS is glad to have brought some participation from foreign countries. IMPS will also be happy to perform the same services, normally the responsibility of National Commissioners, for future exhibitions of this kind.

In general, we encourage all philatelists to seek out participate at national and international exhibitions and to keep



this beautiful hobby alive for the current and next generations.

Continued...

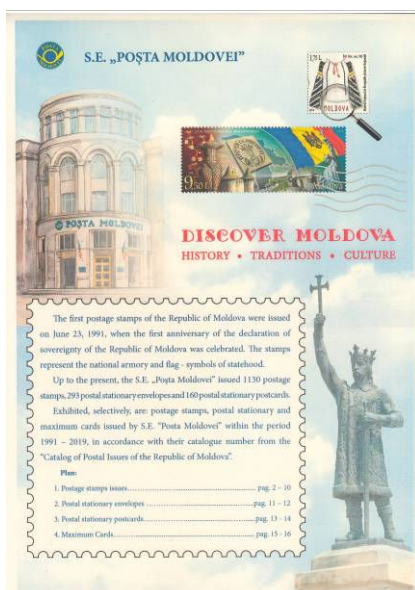
Exhibition Report (continued): “BELPHILA-2019” - Brest, Belarus

IMPS and other international participants also appreciate the warm words of personal welcome, during the speech given by Vice-President of the Union of Philatelists of Russia, Alexey Borodin. That was a most thoughtful gesture and greatly appreciated.

It is true that the exhibition suffered some technical difficulties. The loss of the website of the Brest branch of the Belorussian Union of Philatelists, just before the exhibition, was a nuisance for foreign participants. In particular, this prevented transmission of the change of the exhibition date, originally scheduled for September 9-16.

The loss of the website also prevented a simple publishing of the Palmares (results list). While a document has been published on the website of Bel-pochta, participants should note that at the date of writing (September 20) that the document contains typographic errors and needs to be edited and replaced. The organizers are aware of this.

Regarding the display of display of digital material at the exhibition, we had made some suggestions to the organizers but we don't know if these were implemented. With the intention of giving some visibility to digital exhibits, we had suggested that a TV screen or computer monitor be present on the literature table, with a rotating screen show displaying images of the websites. This is something we are trying to advocate for all exhibitions in the future.



The introductory page of the Posta Moldovei exhibit (one frame) at “BELPHILA-2019”

In preparation for “BELPHILA-2019”, IMPS prepared a special exhibition souvenir cover in just 6 copies and distributed them to supporters of websites in philatelic competitions.

We were also very pleased to have been joined at the exhibition, for the first time, by Posta Moldovei, who participated with two exhibits.

In the Official class (reserved for postal administrations and not in competition) Posta Moldovei displayed a beautifully presented, one-frame exhibit of postal materials issued between 1991 to date.

Posta Moldovei also entered a second



The Posta Moldovei exhibit (one frame) at “BELPHILA-2019”

exhibit - a new printed catalogue of the philatelic issues for the year 2018.

This new catalogue was very highly appraised by the jury and was awarded with a large vermeil medal (85 points). Congratulations to the authors, the “Timbrofil” team at the philatelic bureau of Posta Moldovei.



The new philatelic catalogue for 2018, published by Posta Moldovei.



ABOVE: IMPS prepared just 6 copies of this special exhibition cover with personalized stamps of Moldova (on the right). The covers were distributed to supporters of the websites in philatelic competitions.

New Stamp Issue: Discover Moldova - Festivals: International Festival of Opera and Ballet «Maria Bieșu»

Issued on September 6, this stamp was not included in the annual plan of issues for 2019 and it's release was only announced during August 2019.

The designer was Vitaliu Pogolșa who has been responsible for many previous stamp issues. The stamp was printed by Nova Imprim in Chisinau and in unusually small-format minisheets of only 6 (3x3) values, with an extra-wide, decorated right frame.



ABOVE: № 1116 (5.75L):
Logo of the International Festival of Opera and Ballet «Maria Bieșu»

The stamp was printed in a quantity of 150,000 and was perforated 13 with syncopation. The design features the logo of the International Festival of Opera and Ballet «Maria Bieșu», held in Chisinau between September 6 and 14.

In the right margin of the minisheet, № 1116 Kb, there is a picture of Maria Bieșu, in her most famous role as Cio Cio San from Puccini's opera, Madame Butterfly.

The official FDC, № 1116 FDC, 162mm x 114mm, was printed in only a small quantity of 300 pieces. The cachet features a collage of the festival logo and Maria Bieșu on a background of a theatre. The selling price from Posta Moldovei, on the day of issue, was 21.00 MDL.

Posta Moldovei had previously released picture postcards relating to Maria Bieșu and these were used by local philatelists to realize private maximum cards.

Posta Moldovei simultaneously issued a special postmark for the festival which was valid throughout its duration from September 6-14 (№ CS2018/14).



ABOVE: Minisheet № 1116 Kb was unusually small with only 6 (3x3) values and with highly decorated margins.



ABOVE: Official FDC № 1116 FDC. Only 300 pieces were issued.



ABOVE: First Day Cancellation № CF411

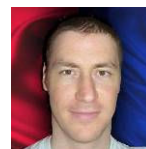


ABOVE: Special Cancellation № CS2018/14

From the Blog Site of Eric Contesse: 2014 : History of Bessarabian Photography (Originally published August 25, 2014)

Eric Contesse (Lyon, France) has written over 300 blog articles about philatelic material from Moldova since 2011. Each month, we will present one (or more) of his articles.

<http://timbredujura.blogspot.com>



On August 8th 2014, the Post of Moldova has released a series of 10 prepaid cards (L 1.30 = domestic postal rate for a postcard) devoted to the history of photography in the historical region of Bessarabia.

These 10 cards indeed reproduce some photographs dating from the late 19th century or early 20th century, from the collections of the National Museum of Ethnography and Natural History (for 9 of them) and the National History Museum, both located in Chisinau. A big thank you Nicolae for having sent me these 10 cards inside the very nice cover below sent on the first day of issue from Chisinau :-)



Nicolae chose different stamps relevant to some of the photographs reproduced on these 10 cards, such as one of the two EUROPA stamps (L 5.75), issued on March 22, 2014, depicting a traditional musical instrument, the cobza, or the stamp in the middle (in two copies), being part of a series of three stamps dedicated to National Museums in Moldova, the National Museum of Ethnography and Natural History here. The third stamp on the right (in two copies) is part of another set of three stamps, issued on January 18, 2014, devoted to traditional Moldovan crafts, pottery here.

These 10 cards (print run: 500 only), designed by Alexandr Kornienko, each reproduce an old photograph also found on the pre-printed stamp on the other side.

(Figure 1) The train station in Chisinau (by P. Kondratki, late 19th century), a folk music group (by P. Kondratki, late 19th century), including a cobza musician, as well as some streets of Chisinau with the Nativity Cathedral in the background (unknown author, 1867) are shown on the four first photographs above. The other side of these same four

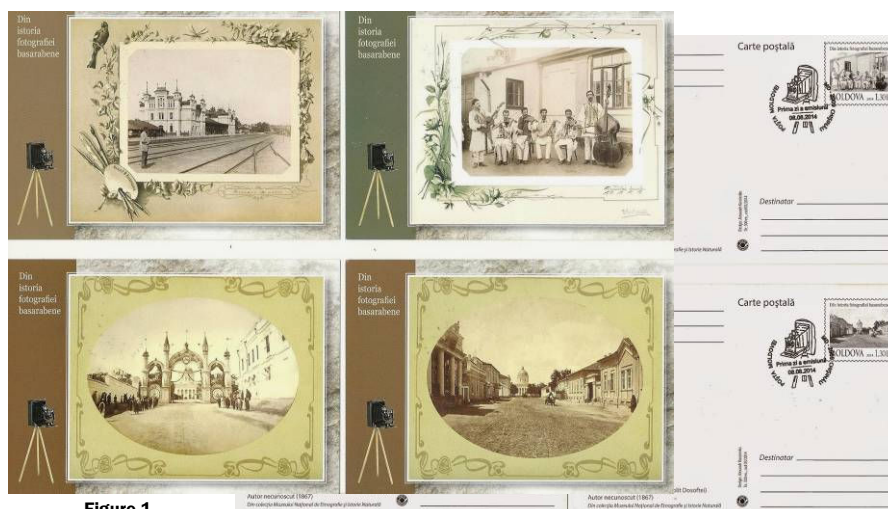


Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

cards above with the special FDC cancellation (an old camera) from Chisinau.

(Figure 2) Scenes showing a couple of potters (by P. Kondratki, early 20th century), grape pressing (by P. Kondratki, early 20th century), the members of the organizing committee of the first agricultural and industrial exhibition in Bessarabia (by P. Kondratki, 1889) as well as the construction of the Zemstva Museum in Chisinau (by F. Ostermann, 1903) are featured on the photographs reproduced on the four other cards above.

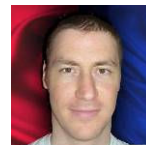
To note that this Zemstva Museum (architect : V. Tsigankov) is now the National Museum of Ethnography and Natural History, the country's largest and oldest museum.

(Figure 3) The last two cards of this series above respectively show a scene of fruit harvest in the village of Speia, Bender county (by A. Ostermann, 1910) as well as a locomotive in the train station of the town of Lipcani (by I. Strutanski, 1913) located in the extreme north of the country, on the border with Romania.

From the Blog Site of Eric Contesse:
2014 : Police Cooperation in Moldova
 (Originally published October 12, 2014)

Eric Contesse (Lyon, France) has written over 300 blog articles about philatelic material from Moldova since 2011. Each month, we will present one (or more) of his articles.

<http://timbredujura.blogspot.com>



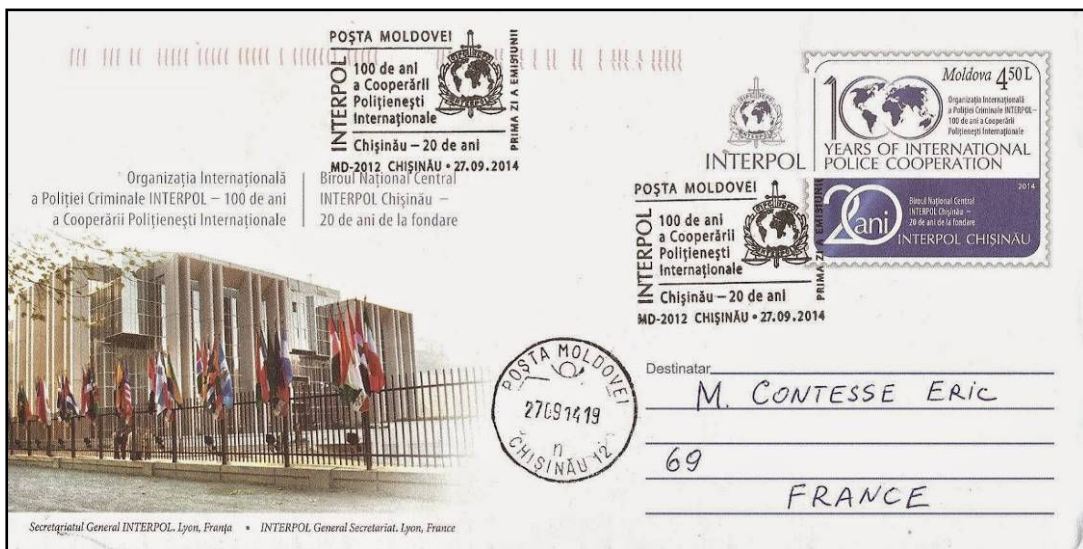
On September 27, 2014, the Post of Moldova has released its 11th pre-stamped envelope of the year, this time devoted to Interpol, the International Criminal Police Organization (ICPO), created in 1923 to promote international police cooperation and the fight against organized crime.

This international organization, which is headquartered in my hometown of Lyon since 1989, is today composed of 190 countries (North Korea and several countries of Oceania are not part of it), including Moldova, a member state since September 28, 1994.

A big thank you Serge for this envelope (design: Vitaliu Pogolșa, print run : 5,000) sent from Chișinău on the first day of issue with its associated cancellation :-)

This envelope has a postage rate (L 4.50) corresponding to a dispatch by land of a letter up to 20g to the countries of the zone A (France is part of this zone).

With this philatelic item, the Post of Moldova wanted to celebrate two anniversaries:



series: 100 years of international police cooperation and the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Interpol National Central Bureau (NCB) in Chișinău.

To note the illustration to the left on this envelope showing the Interpol headquarters in Lyon.

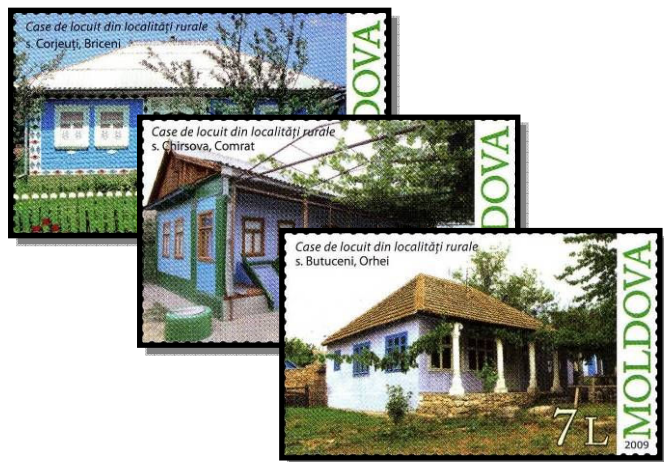
Even if Interpol was formally established in 1923, its beginnings actually date back to 1914 when the first International Criminal Police Congress (then gathering 14 countries) was held in Monaco. WWI then interrupted this process of international cooperation...

This Congress was organized in 1914 in Monaco at the initiative of Prince Albert I and 100 years later, the 83rd Interpol General Assembly will take place again symbolically in Monaco from 3 to 7 November 2014.



10 Years Ago...

October 1, 2009 saw the release of the series "Rural Houses".



Full technical details at
https://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_stamps_issue.asp?issueID=224

20 Years Ago...

September 11, 1999 saw the release of the series "Metropolitans of the Orthodox Church".



Full technical details at
https://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_stamps_issue.asp?issueID=99



**THE INTERNATIONAL MOLDOVAN
PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

**CHIȘINĂU
LYON
SÃO PAULO**

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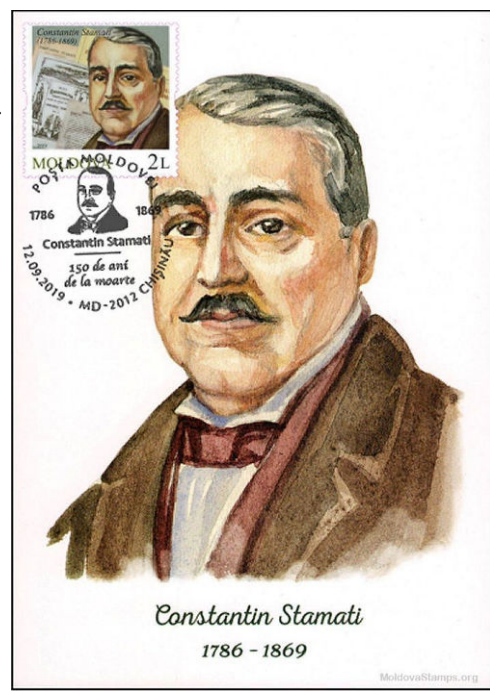
**IMPS is founded on Friendship,
Equality and Passion.**

New Special Cancellation Issue: Constantin Stamati - 150th Death Anniversary

This special cancellation (№ CS2019/15) was issued on September 9, 2019, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the death of the Romanian/Moldovan writer, Constantin Stamati.

As part of the stamps series "Eminent Personalities - Anniversaries & Commemorations" issued on January 15 2019, there was already a stamp featuring Constantin Stamati (№ 1081).

On that day, Posta Moldovei also published a series of picture postcards, one for each personality in the set. However, many copies of these postcards were withheld from distribution until such time as the various



Private Maximum Card № 1081 MC1

birth/death anniversary dates for each personality came around, when a special commemorative cancellation would be issued. In this way, it was possible for local philatelists to realize fully compliant private maximum cards, using the stamps issued in January and the special commemorative postmarks for the various personalities, issued throughout the year.

Full technical details of this issue are at
https://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_envelopes_issue.asp?issueID=4052

Next Month...

Special Report:

Philatelic Plan of Issues for 2020

New Stamp Issue:

Personalities Who Changed World History

New Stamp Issue:

UPU - 145th Anniversary

New Stamp Issue:

Council of Europe - 70th Anniversary

New Cancellation Issues

Articles from the Blog Archives

And lots more...

Newsletters Archive...



The archive of previous IMPS newsletters is now on the site.

www.moldovastamps.org/info-newsletters.asp