• On **1 July 2011**, the National Bank of Poland is putting into circulation coins commemorating Poland's presidency of the Council of the European Union, with the following face values:

100 zł struck in proof finish, in gold,

10 zł struck in proof finish, in silver (with half-tone screen pad printing),

2 zł struck in standard finish, in Nordic Gold.

#### The National Bank of Poland

holds the exclusive right to issue the currency of the Republic of Poland.

In addition to coins and notes for general circulation, the NBP issues collector coins and notes.

Issuing collector items is an occasion to commemorate important historic figures and anniversaries, as well as to develop the interest of the public in Polish culture, science and tradition.

Since 1996, the NBP has also been issuing occasional 2 złoty coins, struck in Nordic Gold, for general circulation.

All coins and notes issued by the NBP are legal tender in Poland.

COINS ISSUED IN 2011 COINS ISSUED IN 2011



Information on the issue schedule can be found at the www.nbp.pl/monety website.

Collector coins issued by the National Bank of Poland are sold in the Kolekcjoner service (Internet auction/Online shop) at the following website:

www.kolekcjoner.nbp.pl



and at the NBP regional branches.

The coins were struck at the Mint of Poland in Warsaw.

Edited and printed: NBP Printing Office



# c o i n s



Poland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union

## Poland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union

On 1 July 2011 Poland will assume the presidency of the Council of the European Union for the first time in history. Seen in the perspective of Poland's membership in the Union, this will be the most important event since the country's accession

The presidency of the European Union, even though it is a major challenge in terms of strategic planning and the level of political and organisational activity — both on the national and European scale — it is also a great opportunity to participate directly in mapping the future course of action of the European Union.

Holding presidency enables a country, on the one hand, to have a greater influence on EU decisions, to define the political priorities on the Union forum, to indicate the most crucial areas and to put forward own ideas and initiatives. On the other hand, it obliges the presiding country to ensure the continuity and smooth operation of the Union's activities, as well as guaranteeing that its voice on matters important to the world be well heard. The success of a presidency is the best promotion for a country and an opportunity to boost its image.

The work of the Council of the European Union and its preparatory bodies in essence consists in creating the law. They make decisions of material relevance to almost 500 million citizens of the Member States. To raise public awareness of this, over 300 meetings are going to be held across our country, involving over 30 thousand delegates from all EU countries. The cities hosting the top-level meetings are: Sopot, Wrocław, Cracow, Poznań and Warsaw. However, important political, social and cultural meetings have been taking place all over Poland.

The presidency is not solely a political event to be handled by government administration. It is also a vast social and cultural project. The cultural programme of the Polish presidency is one of the largest initiatives launched to promote the country since 1989. From July to December 2011 thousands of events will be held: public concerts, exhibitions, theatre performances and educational activities.

In ten capital cities, including ones outside the borders of the European Union – Berlin, Brussels, Kiev, London, Madrid, Minsk, Moscow, Paris, Beijing and Tokyo – nearly 400 events will take place, coordinated by the Adam

Mickiewicz Institute together with Polish Cultural Institutes. In addition to this, Polish diplomatic posts from Lisbon to St. Petersburg and from Hong Kong to Mexico City will host numerous conferences, concerts, exhibitions and meetings designed to promote Poland, its history and its culture.

The cultural programme within Poland, comprising altogether over 1,000 artistic projects, will be implemented together with 170 partner organisations in eight cities: Białystok, Katowice, Cracow, Lublin, Poznań, Sopot, Warsaw and Wrocław. The whole programme will be coordinated by the National Audiovisual Institute. Moreover, many bottom-up community initiatives that have been cropping up throughout the country will be launched under the patronage of Poland's presidency.

One of the projects to commemorate Poland's presidency of the Council of European Union is the issuance, by the National Bank of Poland, of a series of occasional coins.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs



#### FACE VALUE 100 ZŁ

metal Au 900/1000 ■ finish proof ■ diameter 21.00 mm weight 8.00 g ■ mintage (volume) 4,000 pcs

OBVERSE: On the right-hand side, against the outline of Europe's territory, at Poland's location on the map, an image of the Eagle established as the State Emblem of the Republic of Poland. Twelve stars around the Eagle; on its left side and at the top, an inscription: 100 ZL. At the bottom, a semicircular inscription: RZECZPOSPOLITA POLSKA 2011 (Republic of Poland). The Mint's mark: M/W, under the Eagle's left leg.

REVERSE: A stylised image of the logo of Poland's presidency of the Council of the European Union, against a stylised fragment of the European Union flag. At the top, above the image of the logo, a stylised image of a handshake. At the bottom, a semicircular inscription: PRZEWODNICTWO POLSKI W RADZIE UE (Poland's presidency of the Council of the European Union).

Coin designer: URSZULA WALERZAK

#### metal Ag 925/1000 and paints: yellow, black, green, blue, orange and red

FACE VALUE

■ finish proof ■ diameter 32.00 mm
weight 14.14 g ■ mintage (volume) 50,000 pcs

OBVERSE: On the right-hand side, an image of the Eagle established as the State Emblem of the Republic of Poland. On its left side and at the bottom, an inscription: 10 ZL. On the left-hand side, at the top, a stylised letter 'e' against the flag of the Republic of Poland, which morphs into the outline of a fragment of Poland's territory. The flag is surrounded by twelve stars. At the bottom, a semicircular inscription: RZECZPOSPOLITA POLSKA 2011 (Republic of Poland 2011). The Mint's mark: M/W, under the Eagle's left leg.

REVERSE: In the middle, against the outline of the territory of Poland, a stylised image of the logo of Poland's presidency of the Council of the European Union yellow, black, green, blue, orange and red colours. Around it, an inscription: PRZEWODNICTWO POLSKI W RADZIE UE (Poland's presidency of the Council of the European Union). Along the rim, in an isolated area, twelve stars.

Coin designer: URSZULA WALERZAK

### metal CuAl5Zn5Sn1 alloy ■ finish standard ■ diameter 27.00 mm weight 8.15 g ■ mintage (volume) 800,000 pcs

FACE VALUE 2

OBVERSE: An image of the Eagle established as the State Emblem of the Republic of Poland. On the sides of the Eagle, the notation of the year of issue: 20-11; under the Eagle, an inscription: ZŁ 2 ZŁ. Along the rim, an inscription: RZECZPOSPOLITA POLSKA (Republic of Poland) preceded and followed by six pearls. The Mint's mark: MW, under the Eagle's left leg.

REVERSE: In the middle, against a stylised fragment of the European Union flag, a stylised image of the logo of Poland's presidency of the Council of the European Union. On the right-hand side, two stylised silhouettes shaking hands. At the top, above the image of the logo, a stylised image of a handshake. At the bottom, a semicircular inscription: PRZEWODNICTWO POLSKI W RADZIE UE (Poland's presidency of the Council of the European Union).

ON THE EDGE: The inscription, NBP, repeated eight times, every second one inverted by 180 degrees, separated by stars.

Obverse designer: EWA TYC-KARPIŃSKA Reverse designer: URSZULA WALERZAK