

All Polish collector coins feature:

- face value
- image of the Eagle established as the state emblem of the Republic of Poland
- inscription: Rzeczpospolita Polska
- year of issue



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.

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

Should you have any questions, please contact our consultants at the following phone numbers: +48 22 185 45 96 and +48 22 185 13 03.

Collector coins issued by NBP are sold in the NBP regional branches and at the online shop.

On 12 July 2017 Narodowy Bank Polski will be putting into circulation collector coins with face values of 50 złoty and 500 złoty, from the series “Treasures of King Stanislaw August” – Sigismund the Elder, and a collector coin with a face value of 20 złoty, from the series “History of Polish Coin” – 100 Ducats of Sigismund Vasa.

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Narodowy Bank Polski

We protect the value of money

NBP

Narodowy Bank Polski

35th Anniversary of Fighting Solidarity



Collector coins

35th Anniversary of Fighting Solidarity

Fighting Solidarity was the largest organization seeking the overthrow of the communist system and the restoration of independence of countries enslaved by Soviet imperialism. It was established in Wrocław in June 1982 and in a short time developed structures in all the regions and all the major cities of Poland. Already in 1983 Fighting Solidarity started printing underground publications in Czech and Russian, and the subsequently formed Eastern Division of this organization co-established freedom fighting centres in several republics of the Soviet Union.

It was the only opposition group against which the interior minister of the Polish People's Republic, General Czesław Kiszczak, issued orders "to use all available forces and means". Despite the involvement of civilian and military special services, the participation of the KGB and STASI in the struggle against Fighting Solidarity, and the numerous and frequent detentions of the people involved in the organization, it was never broken up or penetrated by the communist forces.

Fighting Solidarity consisted of about three thousand sworn activists, and was supported by a much larger group of people actively helping in its activities. It published more than a hundred underground press titles, and its network of underground radio stations in dozens of Polish cities aired several hundred illegal broadcasts. The organization had its own counter-intelligence structures ensuring the security of the conspiratorial work. Each member of Fighting Solidarity was not only a conspirator trained in this craft at underground courses, a printer familiar with various printing techniques, but also a "one-man printing house", that is, a person capable of



Face value 10 zł

Metal: Ag 925/1000

Finish: proof (two levels of mirrored surface)

Diameter: 32.00 mm

Weight: 14.14 g

Edge: plain

Mintage: up to 20,000 pcs



Obverse graphic design: Robert Kotowicz

Reverse graphic design: Jacek Jaśkiewicz

Issuer: NBP

The coins, commissioned by NBP, were struck by Mennica Polska S.A.

independently launching the printing of underground press in the most unfavourable circumstances and in conditions of minimal resources.

A large part of the activists of Fighting Solidarity were women, who played a huge role in the organization and exhibited extraordinary dedication. One of the many examples of their involvement is "Wiadomości Bieżące" (Current News) – a conspiracy newspaper, created mainly on the initiative of women. It was printed for 8 years in circulations reaching several thousand copies. A total of 242 issues were published. Like many other publications of Fighting Solidarity, it functioned thanks to extensive networks of underground printing and distribution points. This structure was also a great school of practical skills utilized to break the state's monopoly on information. One of the leaders of this

On 13 June 2017 Narodowy Bank Polski is putting into circulation a silver coin "35th Anniversary of Fighting Solidarity" with a face value of 10 zł.

school – Barbara Sarapuk – was named the "Queen of Underground Print", because she trained the largest number of printers in the entire underground publishing movement.

The symbolism contained on the obverse of the coin reminds us that the Polish nation made a great contribution to the destruction of the concrete wall of Communist enslavement and played a fundamental role in the overthrow of the post-Yalta world order. The obverse depicts a cracking monolith that is shattered by the emblem of the Polish State. In the cracks we see the words from the programme and the oath sworn by the members of Fighting Solidarity. The reverse presents a stylized silhouette of a woman painting the organization's symbol.

*Kornel Morawiecki
– Founder of Fighting Solidarity*