






The current schedule of issue of collector items and commemorative coins

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Narodowy Bank Polski
 ul. Świętokrzyska 11/21
 00-919 Warszawa
 tel. 22 185 10 00
 e-mail: listy@nbp.pl

NarodowyBankPolski 
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 @nbppl 

NBP Narodowy Bank Polski

Collector coins of NBP

1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017

2018



Collector coin
We Poles, proud and free: 1918-2018

www.nbp.pl/MyPolacy
 #MyPolacy

**1918 | My
 2018 | Polacy**

Face value: 10 zł

Metal: Ag 925/1000

Finish: proof

UV printing

2D barcode

Diameter: 32.00 mm

Weight: 14.14 g

Edge: plain

Mintage: up to 25,000 pcs

Designer: Robert Kotowicz

Date of issue: 14 August 2018

Issuer: NBP

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



On 14 August 2018, Narodowy Bank Polski is putting into circulation a silver collector coin with a face value of 10 zł – “We Poles, proud and free: 1918-2018”.

The coins are available at the NBP regional branches and at the online shop kolekcjoner.nbp.pl.

One hundred years ago, we regained our independence

Successive generations of Poles had fought for it and had worked tirelessly, both at home and abroad, in order to ensure that the Polish cause was not erased from European memory and politics. The generation that won independence for Poland, known as the rebellious generation, is represented by the two founding fathers of Independent Poland – Roman Dmowski and Józef Piłsudski. Before 1914, that generation made an attempt to overcome the widespread apathy, mobilizing the whole society to constantly prepare for the moment when the external political situation once again would put the Polish cause on the agenda. When that happened, as a result of the outbreak of World War I and its prolonged duration, Polish politicians were able to lay the foundations for the Polish civil administration and the future Polish Army, which emerged from organizations such as the Polish Legions and the Blue Army. As a result of diplomatic action by the Polish National Committee, led by Roman Dmowski and Ignacy Jan Paderewski, the Polish cause was brought to a successful conclusion. In November 1918, Poland – even though it was yet to reappear on the political map of the world – found itself among the victors of World War I, alongside France, the United Kingdom and the United States, and participated in the decisions of the Versailles Peace Conference.

This success would not have been possible without the involvement of millions of Polish people who joined the efforts to create the Polish Republic

The borders of the Polish state were shaped not only thanks to the participation of the elites, but also thanks to the Polish patriots coming from all social strata and all territories: the Polish insurgents fighting in the Silesian Uprising, the Greater Poland Uprising, the Sejny Uprising as well as the Lwów Eaglets and the Przemyśl Eaglets, thanks to the inhabitants of the Cieszyn Silesia and Pomerania regions, as well as the entire Polish Eastern Borderlands, thanks to all the people involved in the plebiscites. Poland was reinstated also thanks to the public officials appointed by the Regency Council and thanks to the Polish Army, fighting in the East and in the West, thanks to the diplomacy and the dozens of professionals and experts, including economists and historians, who supported the main Polish negotiators in Versailles with their authority. We won back Poland thanks to the supporters of the National Democracy and the supporters of

Piłsudski's camp, thanks to those supporting the People's Party and the Socialists, thanks to Conservatives and Christian Democrats, thanks to local government officials and national politicians, members of the Legislative Sejm and members of the Ignacy J. Paderewski government. In the field of charity work, exceptional contributions were made by individuals such as Henryk Sienkiewicz, Sister Urszula Ledóchowska and Fr. Marcei Nowakowski, and in the area of youth work – by the founders of scouting associations, including Olga and Andrzej Małkowski and Fr. Kazimierz Lutosławski. The Polish national liberation movement also involved the participation of thousands of Catholic Church priests, including social and political activists and military chaplains, such prominent figures as Bishop Władysław Bandurski, Fr. Józef Prądzyński and Fr. Ignacy Skorupka, as well as bishops, including the Bishop of Kraków Adam Stefan Sapieha and the Archbishop of Warsaw Aleksander Kakowski. The universal nature of the efforts to preserve the reborn Polish state was confirmed by the course of the Polish-Bolshevik war of 1920, during which the Volunteer Army was established, and the population united in prayers before the images of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The unity of national feeling rendered impossible the goal of the Bolsheviks and their agitators in Poland to arouse the desire to destroy Poland among the broader sections of Polish society.

Our proud and free nation proved capable of rising above its weaknesses and quarrels, and at key junctures embraced humble attitude and unconditional service to the Polish cause. The past explains the present. If we want to be proud and free today, we must celebrate the 100th anniversary of regaining independence in a conscious way, learning about our history. As a result, we will be able to better understand that beautiful word: patriotism.

The obverse of the coin depicts the images of the vaults and the side columns of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Warsaw and a stylized flag of Poland. Below there are dates from 1918 to 2018, among which the years symbolizing events important for the history of our country were highlighted.

On the reverse the coin presents the images of two people symbolizing the current generation of Poles, watching a multimedia show on touch screens, as well as a 2D barcode, which serves as a link to the Narodowy Bank Polski website: www.nbp.pl/MyPolacy. The stylized screens depict the outlines of the Royal Castle, Belvedere Palace, the orders of Polonia Restituta and Virtuti Militari, as well as the inscription “Solidarity”. On the reverse there is also the inscription: MY POLACY DUMNI I WOLNI [We Poles, proud and free] and the dates 1918 and 2018.

prof. Jan Żaryn