

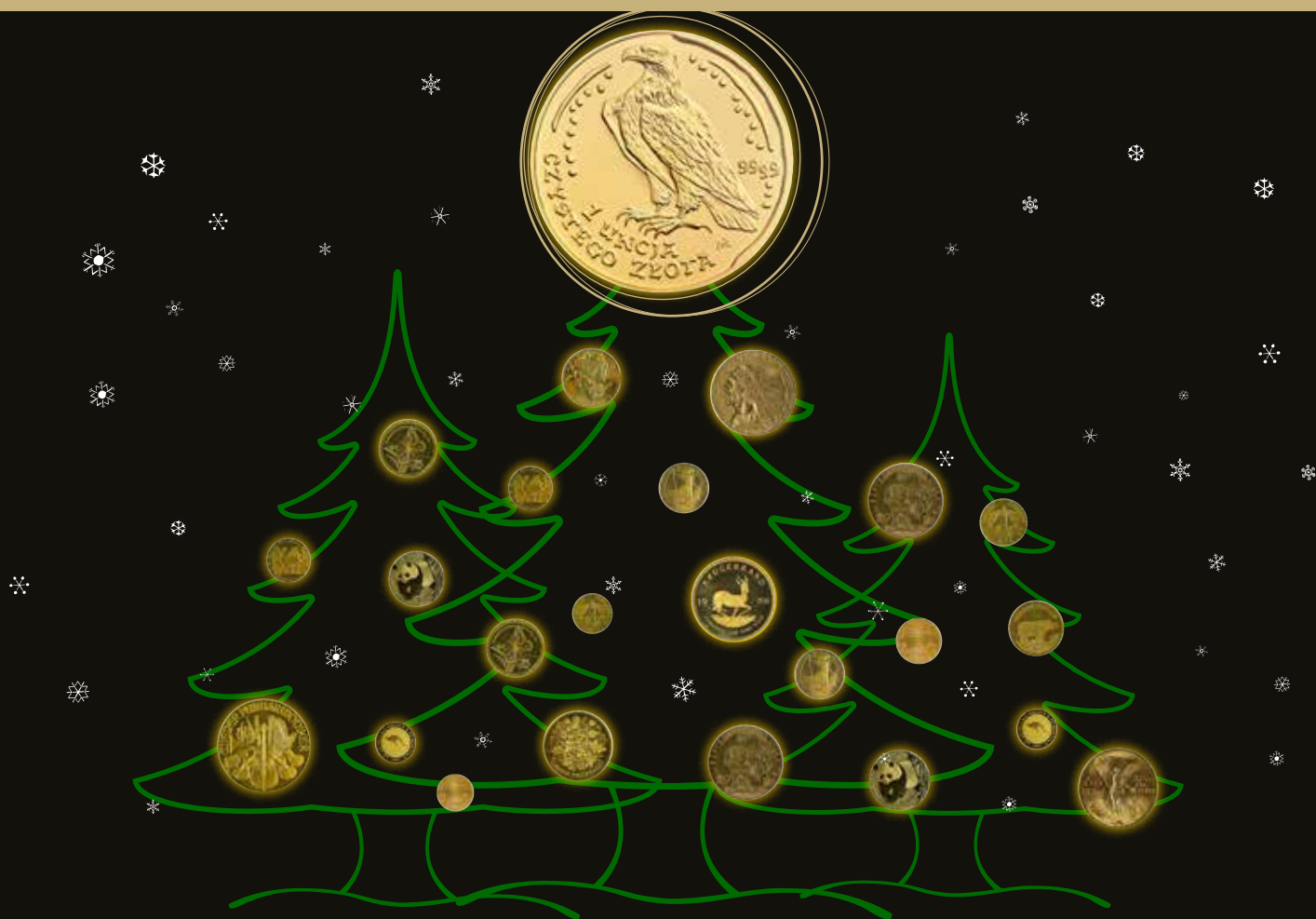
NBP

Money Centre
in memory of Sławomir S. Skrzypek

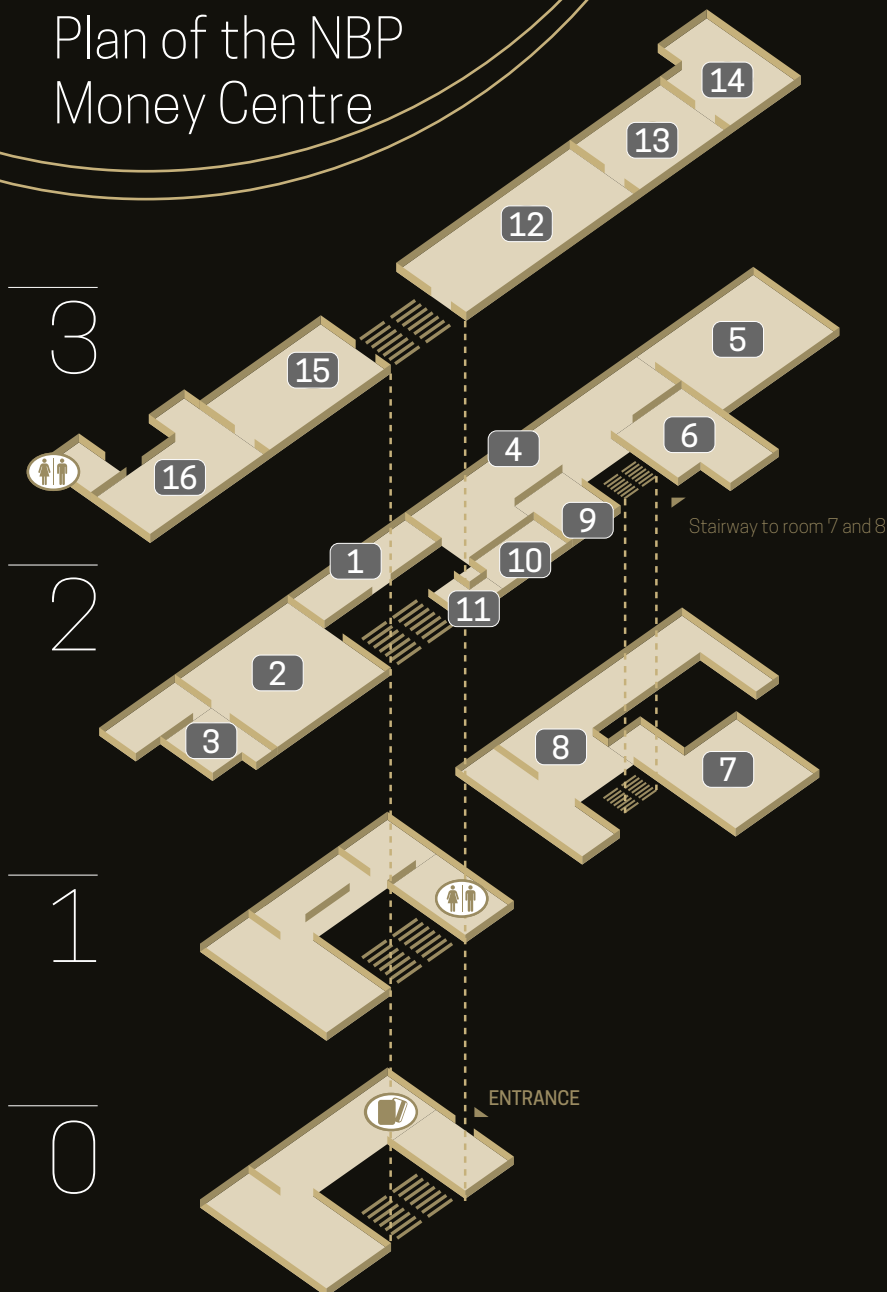
No 12
4th Q 2017

Bankoteka

HISTORY ▪ ECONOMY ▪ EDUCATION



Plan of the NBP Money Centre




LEVEL 3

- 12** Stock Exchange and Financial Markets
- 13** Modern Payment Systems
- 14** Monetary and Economic Unions
- 15** Creator of Money and Money Production
- 16** Money in Art
-  Toilets

LEVEL 2

- 1** Encounters with Money
- 2** Antiquity-Middle Ages-Modernity
- 3** Monetary Systems
- 4** Bank Street
- 5** Central Bank
- 6** Numismatist's Study
- 9** Wars
- 10** Polish People's Republic
- 11** Transformation

LEVEL 1

- 7** Laboratory of Authenticity
- 8** Vault
-  Toilets

LEVEL 0

-  Reception desk

Visit our website www.cpnbp.pl

Dear Readers

On the occasion of the Christmas holidays we have prepared a special cover – the front side sparkles with the shine of exceptional Christmas tree baubles – gold coins – and on the back cover we present the intricately executed „Polish Carollers” coins, which delight with every detail. The description of the numismatic works of art that we selected from the rich collection of the Money Centre is presented in the *Exhibits* section. Perhaps you will be especially awed by the „White-tailed eagle” coin situated at the top of the Christmas tree on the cover page. This coin was admired by Kornelia and Stasio from the 3rd class in the Primary School in Nowa Iwiczna (photo on page 12).

After enjoying the mesmerizing view of gold coins, we would like to encourage you to learn more about the history of stone money from Yap island. The exhibition in the Money Centre contains a photo of one of the stone coins, known as rai. In the *Discovering multimedia... Let's open the showcases...* section we present this incredibly intriguing method of payment

(especially for people who mainly use payment cards), which is still valid in a way.

Meanwhile, in the *Education* section we take a look at the educational classes for different age groups prepared by the NBP Money Centre's Education Team. The constantly developing offer of attractive activities is very popular among children and school youth – you have to sign up several months in advance in order to be able to participate in the classes.

Education cannot take place without references to history, and therefore this section of our magazine begins with material presenting – especially to the younger generation – the events of 13 December 1981.

In the magazine's regular section *Money museums of the world* there is a report from Jakarta. In the last section, guests from Riga, Yerevan and Bishkek present their opinions about the NBP Money Centre.

Under the Christmas tree, by the glow of gold coins from the Money Centre, may all your wishes come true this Christmas!

The editorial team of „Bankoteka”

Education

13 December 1981

The beginning of the end of the economy of the Polish People's Republic **pp. 5-7**

„5 x money”

educational programmes at the NBP Money Centre **pp. 8-11**



13 December 1981 – the beginning of the end of the economy of the Polish People’s Republic

When the largest wave of strikes in post-war history swept through Poland in August 1980, the communist authorities considered reaching for solutions they had previously used in similar circumstances: sending militia units and armoured divisions against the protesters. However, within a few days the strikers had barricaded themselves in thousands of workplaces. Faced with such a large number of locations of the rebellion, sending in the tanks would mean an operation of previously unknown scale, which would be risky and bloody.

For this reason the leaders of the Polish People’s Republic, caught off guard, decided to resolve the largest ever conflict with the public in a different way. Their idea was inspired by the fact that secret collaborators of the communist secret services had also assumed leading positions in the main centres

of the protest. They took the highest positions in the most important strike committees, realizing one of the basic principles followed by the Russian, and later all other pro-Soviet police forces: “If you can’t stop a movement, you have to assume its leadership”. The authorities expected that by having their own people

among the leaders of the emerging social movement, they would be able to control it.

However, after the conclusion of the agreements with the strikers, the communist regime was surprised once again. Despite all the activities that were aimed at blocking such developments, in a short period of time 10 million people joined a trade union independent from the authorities, whose establishment was permitted on 31 August 1980. Many other independent initiatives very quickly emerged around it. The communist surveillance system was not able to stop or dominate the Polish desire for freedom using its agents. In autumn 1980 both the authorities of the Polish People’s Republic, and their Soviet backers realized that even the most sophisticated and coordinated activity of the Security Service collaborators planted within the Solidarity trade union and other organizations would not change the independent nature of what was in reality a national liberation movement. The political order of the Polish People’s Republic, modelled on the Soviet Union, whose essence was the control of every fragment of reality, was beginning to crack. To the amazement of the entire world, Poles were regaining the due rights of free people. This process was observed in horror by the communist regimes in other countries.



10 zł, an NBP silver collector coin from 2016, issued on the 35th anniversary of the crackdown on the “Wujek” coal mine in Katowice (16 December 1981). In the background of the obverse side there is a stylized image of the “Krakus” shaft of that mine.
NBP collection



Inspection of the Citizens' Militia and the State Trade Inspection at Różycki Bazaar in Warsaw. January 1982. Room: Polish People's Republic.
Photo: NBP collection

In this situation, the authorities of the Soviet Union began preparing for an armed invasion of Poland in order to restore the totalitarian order. They intended to secure their rule in our country using the methods already used in Hungary in 1956 and in Czechoslovakia in 1968. However, the invasion of Poland was more difficult for several reasons. For many months the Soviet Union had been suffering great military and political costs of the war in Afghanistan. Poland was a country larger than Hungary or Czechoslovakia, and in the recent past proved to be a country of people who were able to make unprecedented sacrifices to defend their freedom, even in hopeless situations. In addition, the governments of the United States and the United Kingdom sent particularly stern warnings to Moscow, the likes of which the Soviet authorities had not seen before. In December 1980 Brezhnev's team decided that the Soviet army would not directly participate in the suppression of the Polish march towards freedom. This task was entrusted to the Soviet-nominated puppet authorities governing Poland since 1944.

The preparations for the frontal attack, carried out secretly over many months, were accompanied by many activities aimed at wearing society down. Goods were kept in warehouses instead of being directed to shops. The blame for the lack of products was laid on Solidarity. The stockpiled supplies were supposed to be introduced on the market after the introduction of martial law and were supposed to provide proof of its beneficial effects. Furious propaganda accused independent organizations of everything that was bad, predicted impending disaster, and suggested that Poland could be saved by the army. The authorities hurriedly expanded the repressive State apparatus, preparing measures intended for combat with civilians. The notices about the martial law were printed in the Soviet Union and secretly waited there for the moment of its announcement.

On the night of 12-13 December 1981, all radio programmes were replaced by a single

broadcast of military music. Armed officers forcefully entered the apartments of thousands of opposition activists, often

smashing doors down the doors with axes. Martial law forbade people from leaving their place of residence and from leaving their home after 10 p.m. Newspapers and magazines were replaced by regional military circulars. Citizens were deprived of hundreds of their elementary rights and a breach of the announced regulations was to be punished just like during a war, including with death penalties issued under summary justice. Larger workplaces were militarized, which meant that the order of a superior was synonymous with a military command. Failure to comply could have the same effect as a soldier's disobedience during a war. The overt censorship of letters was introduced. Each officer of the regime had the right, without the need for a warrant, to inspect any apartment and to arrest indefinitely any citizen at any time of the day or night. Phones were cut off, which not only hindered contact between people, but also caused many tragedies, as it was impossible to call ambulances etc.

The authorities were successful in stoking fear in society. It was strengthened by the methods of dealing with those who were brave enough to protest. Factories in which opposition against martial law was organized were stormed by tanks. The striking workers were fired and their leaders were put in prison. During the crackdown on the coal mines in Katowice ten miners were deliberately murdered. Everything indicated that the authorities wanted to use this murder to remind the public that they were ready to kill those who dared to go on strike. They stifled street protests in a similar way by shooting at peaceful demonstrations. Tens of thousands of people fighting for freedom spent time in prisons, detention centres and internment camps. In the terrorized country Jaruzelski's regime shut down all independent organizations and social initiatives that were created after August 1980. Martial law was formally suspended at the end of 1982 and it was lifted in July 1983. This was to a large extent a sham, however, as the essential principles of the totalitarian order imposed on 13 December 1981 continued to apply. From that time the social reality was in a certain way broken up into two parts. One, known from the regime's propaganda and its institutions, was controlled by the communist authorities. The second was developing in conspiracy, where thousands of independent newspapers and books were published, despite the threat of harsh sentences. Those longing for freedom also found support within the Catholic Church. Despite the terror, demonstrations took place, and in the churches and private apartments independent cultural and scientific life carried on, frequently interrupted by waves of arrests. The scale of underground resistance took the authorities by surprise and was a constant cause of concern for them. The second source of concern was the constantly deteriorating condition of the economy. Despite frantic efforts, the Polish People's Republic was plunging into a deepening economic crisis. In the second half of the 1980s,



Ration card for petrol and a leaflet from the 1980s. Room: Polish People's Republic.
NBP collection

successive leaders of the communist regime began to realize that soon not only would they not be able to meet the basic needs of society, but they even would not be able to maintain their own state repression system. Therefore, when strikes started breaking out in Poland again in 1988, the authorities began negotiations with the part of the opposition that was seeking a settlement with the communist regime.

■ Artur Adamski

“5 x money” – educational programmes at the NBP Money Centre

The NBP Money Centre is not only a place where guests can admire unique exhibits and use modern multimedia. It is primarily an educational space enabling visitors a direct meeting with the world of money. It is a place where history can be touched, and where knowledge is presented in a dynamic and interactive way. The educational function of the NBP Money Centre is its primary function – it is not only meant to make a positive impression on the visitors, but first and foremost, it is meant to provide them with knowledge. We are trying to realize this idea in the broadest possible way, preparing special offers of activities and workshops for successive groups.

NBP Centrum Pieniądza
im. Sławomira S. Skrzypka

5x pieniądze

zajęcia na
ekspozycji
szkoła podstawowa
klasa III – IV

- Twórca i produkcja pieniądza
- Antyk-średniowiecze-nowożytność
- Gabinet numizmatyka
- Skarbiec

HISTORIA · EKONOMIA · EDUKACJA

The educational offer of the NBP Money Centre is constantly developing, and its creation is an ongoing process. The Money Centre currently provides workshops, classes and guided tours, as well as special tools intended for the independent exploration of the exhibition. We cater to children, youth, and adults, including seniors, as well as persons with various forms of disabilities. In 2017 the offer of the NBP Money Centre included the following proposals:

- for primary schools: 2 types of classes and 3 types of educational workshops,
- for lower secondary schools: 2 types of classes and 3 types of educational workshops,
- for upper secondary schools: 2 types of classes and a general tour with a guide,
- for seniors: special guided tour, combined with a lecture entitled “Money in history and in anecdote”.
- for children and adults with various types of disabilities: tour of the exhibition with a guide prepared to serve such guests,
- for families with children aged 6-12 years: special interactive maps,
- for everyone: general tour with a guide or using one of the three thematic exploration paths (“ABC of the NBP Money Centre”).

All the educational programmes of the NBP Money Centre are created by a team of experts, including people with years of experience in museum education. The activities leaders who convey the knowledge to the public on a daily basis also provide support in the development of the educational materials. Their preparation, enthusiasm and efficiency

Left: A brochure developed by the NBP Money Centre’s Education Team, used for the “5 x money” classes.
NBP collection



Children from the 2nd class at the Private Primary School No. 6 in Warsaw during classes in the Antiquity - Middle Ages - Modern Times room.
Photo: NBP

to a great extent determine how much of the conveyed knowledge will be remembered by the participants of the classes. Therefore the work on the educational offer of the NBP Money Centre also involves improving the skills of the activities leaders, which consist of competencies such as the ability to cooperate with a group, coaching skills, proper voice production, creativity and the ability to deal with unusual situations.

The popularity of economic education at the Money Centre is best evidenced by the following data. For example, as part of this year's campaign "Summer in the City", which was conducted from 4 July to 31 August, the NBP Money Centre was visited by 181 groups, i.e. 3,391 children, of which 160 groups attended classes in the rooms of the Money Centre, and 21 groups participated in educational workshops. It is worth noting that the available dates for the summer activities were booked within the first week after they were announced.

	2016	2017	Increase by...
Number of groups visiting as part of the "Summer in the city" campaign at the NBP Money Centre	94	181	92%

What's new in the educational offer of the NBP Money Centre

5 x money – activities for classes 3-4 of primary schools

"5 x money" is a new offer of activities for primary schools (classes 3 and 4). The tour goes through four rooms: Creator of Money and Money Production, Antiquity – Middle Ages – Modern Times, Numismatist's Study and Vault. During the classes the pupils learn about the history of commodity money (pre-monetary period), the process of producing money (coins and banknotes) and the types of modern coins and banknotes. The activities leader conducting the classes guides the pupils through the successive rooms using a special task sheet serving as an auxiliary teaching tool. The pupils fill it out, acquiring knowledge they will later find useful in practice.

Family tour – a set of maps for independent tours by families with children

Since the end of September 2017, families with children are able to use interactive maps that lead through the exhibition. We propose two paths for family tours: "The treasures of the NBP Money Centre" and "I knew it! Young experts at the NBP Money Centre". During the journey the guests need to solve tasks intended for both children and adults. It's worth putting in the effort, because there is a prize waiting for those who complete the route! The idea for such family tours is based on the combination of learning with fun, to ensure that a visit at the NBP Centre of Money is interesting and rewarding for all guests. Dozens of families have already taken advantage of the offer of the family tour of the Centre.

■ *Natalia Ćwik-Obrębowska*

The success of the educational activities is primarily guaranteed by the skills of the people who conduct them, that is, the activities leaders.

The concept of the educational programme of the NBP Money Centre, as well as the scenarios of most classes and workshops, were prepared by NBP Money Centre's Education Team, but the transposition of the general idea into specific methodological solutions is the result of collaboration with the activities leaders. After all, they are the ones who conduct the classes with children and the youth, guide

the tours of adult groups, and prepare and give the lectures. The end result – a successful meeting, great classes, satisfied participants – depends both on the excellent professional preparation of the activities leaders, and on their involvement, ability to involve visitors and flexibility.

That is why we place great emphasis on the procedures for the selection of people working at the NBP Money Centre. The activities leaders are ultimately the employees who are in direct contact with the guests, and are the “face” of our institution, which is friendly to the visitors and open to their needs and individual experiences. The attitude exhibited by our activities leaders ensures that both school groups and individual guests want to visit the Centre again.

■ KR

Adam Skręta, an activities leader at the NBP Money Centre since May 2016

The most important part of the work of an activities leader are the visitors. We strive to provide our guests with the best impressions of their visit, and we help them find their own way in the complex world of money. The activities leaders offer support to those guests who decide to explore the exhibition on their own. The Money Centre also organizes educational activities for children and young people at all levels of education. I often conduct classes for groups of lower secondary school students. They are a very demanding audience. To paraphrase a famous quote – a group of lower secondary school students is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get... Our offer for lower secondary school students includes classes entitled “Money in the bank”, during which we discuss, among other things, the history of banking and the principles of operation of banks. Discussing the functions of the central bank in such a way that the message is understood by the audience is a challenge. I especially remember one group of first graders from one of Warsaw's lower secondary schools. It turned out that the students almost immediately understood the unique role of NBP in the banking system and asked questions that would normally be asked by students of economics. To my surprise, in the room where a real gold bar is exhibited, some still preferred to listen about the issue of money and the security of the banking sector. I would love for each of my classes to proceed like that...



Children from the 3rd class of the Primary School in Nowa Iwiczna near Piaseczno finish their class in the Vault room.
Photo: NBP



In the Vault the third graders from Nowa Iwiczna were able to take a closer look at the gold coins that we put on the Christmas tree presented on our front page.
Photo: NBP

Interactive maps for independent tours of the NBP Money Centre by parents with children

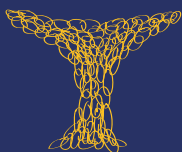
Skarby Centrum Pieniądza NBP

Szukając skarbów, rozwiążcie zadania.
Odkrycie kod do sejfów z nagrodą.

NBP Centrum Pieniądza
im. Sławomira S. Skrzypka

Start!

Znajdźcie złote drzewo!



Stare monety, zwłaszcza złote i srebrne, to prawdziwe skarby! Monety nie istniały zawsze. Zanim je wynaleziono, ludzie wymieniali się towarami.

1. Wokół drzewa są monety. Zagrajcie w grę i dowiedzcie się, dlaczego wymiana towarów nie była prosta.

Monety to genialny wynalazek, który rozpowszechnił starożytni Grecy.

7 tajemnicy
mądrości
bogactwa

2. Znajdźcie monetę z sowa. Czy wiecie, czego symbolem jest sowa?

Czas ruszać dalej.
Ulicą Bankową dojdziecie do Gabinetu numizmatyka.

5



4. Co to było?
Poszukajcie w gablocie.

Używanie takich monet było bardzo trudne, więc Szwedzi wynalazli coś wygodniejszego.

20
40
80

3. Podnieście wielką monetę. Zmierzcie linijką jej dłuższą krawędź i podajcie wynik w centymetrach.

Odszukajcie przejście do następnej sali.
Jest tajemnicza i ciemna.

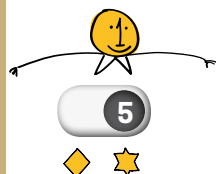
5. Po drodze odpocznijcie przy fontannie. Czas uмили wam gra.



Wejdźcie do Gabinetu numizmatyka.

Numizmatyk to znawca i kolekcjoner monet i medali.

6. Obejrzyjcie monety w zegarze i znajdźcie jedną, która nie jest okrągła. Jaki ma kształt?



Monety, którymi się posługujemy, są zwykle okrągłe. Jak myślicie, dlaczego?

Wychodząc, zróbcie sobie zdjęcie w fotelu numizmatyka.

Wróćcie na Ulicę Bankową. Odwróćcie tabliczkę.

Wiem! Młodzi eksperci w Centrum Pieniądza NBP

Idąc wyznaczoną trasą, rozwiążcie zadania. Odkrycie kod do sejfów z nagrodą.

NBP Centrum Pieniądza
im. Sławomira S. Skrzypka

Start!

W sali ze spadającymi monetami zbierajcie tyle monet, ile zdołacie!



Następnie skierujcie się w lewo na Ulicę Bankową. Tam spotkacie bankiera.

1. Zapytajcie bankiera, jak się nazywa. Dowiedzcie się też, czy według niego banki są potrzebne.

Tak. Pożyczaj pieniądze np. na budowę domu.

Nie są potrzebne.

Usiądźcie na ławce. Porozmawiajcie o tym, jak można korzystać z usług banku. Banki oferują np.: prowadzenie konta, bezpieczne przechowanie oszczędności, możliwość pożyczania pieniędzy.

Pieniądze nie rosną na drzewach. Trzeba je zarobić!

2. Zagrajcie w grę i zastanówcie się, jak mądre wydać zarobione pieniądze.

Litery te to skrót nazwy Banku Polskiego. Działał on w XIX wieku i był pierwszym polskim bankiem centralnym. Bank centralny to najważniejszy bank w państwie.

4. Odczytajcie litery na pieczęci.



Poszukajcie sali z „pieczęcią” na podłodze. Traficie na pewno!

grosz
1
dł
dukat

3. Sprawdźcie, która z monet pokazanych w zegarze jest najstarsza.

Numizmatyk kolekcjonuje monety i medale. To jego hobby. Przeznacza na nie swoje oszczędności.

Czas ruszać dalej.
Po drodze odwiedźcie Gabinet numizmatyka.

Pieniądze można też oszczędzać. Na co chcielibyście przeznaczyć oszczędności?



5. Nazwa współczesnego polskiego banku centralnego znajduje się na wszystkich naszych banknotach. Jak nazywa się ten bank?

5 Bank Główny
Narodowy Bank Polski

Narodowy Bank Polski jest emitentem polskich monet i banknotów. Decyduje też o ich wyglądzie.

6. Obejrzyjcie w gablocie banknoty Narodowego Banku Polskiego. Który element jest niezmienny?

9 nazwa waluty - złoty polski
kolorystyka
wizerunki postaci

Odwróćcie tabliczkę.

Antyk - średniowiecze - nowożytność

Systemy pieniężne

Ulica Bankowa

Gabinet numizmatyka

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

Route for children aged 6-8 years, which begins in the "Antiquity - Middle Ages - Modern Times" room at the tree of knowledge. During the tour the parents and the children will go to the Vault room, which is viewed with great interest.

Bank centralny

Bank centralny

Gabinet numizmatyka

Route for children aged 6-8 years. It starts in the "Encounters with money" room and leads through the following rooms: Bank Street, Numismatist's study and Central Bank.
NBP collection

Exhibits

Gold coins in the NBP Money Centre

Unique Christmas tree decorations **pp. 13-18**



Unique Christmas tree decorations

In order to celebrate the upcoming Christmas holidays, we have decorated the Christmas tree on the cover of the “Bankoteka” magazine with over a dozen or so of the most interesting gold coins held in the NBP collection. They would certainly make extremely precious Christmas gifts.

If you would like to see these and other gold coins with your own eyes, visit the Vault room in the NBP Money Centre. It is a real treasure trove full of gold coins from the numismatic collections of Narodowy Bank Polski. Here you can see 624 coins from all continents and from

different historical periods. In this room you can not only see, but even lift up a 400 ounce gold bar.

These are the gold coins decorating our Christmas tree.



United States
*Indian Head – 2.5 dollar, 1908,
 gold 0.900, weight 4.18 g,
 diameter 18 mm*

Gold bullion coins with an image of the head of an Indian were minted in the years 1908 – 1929 in two denominations: 2.5 dollars and 5 dollars. The coin was designed by Bela Lyon Pratt. It was minted using a concave die.

France
*20 francs, 1911,
 gold 0.900, weight 6.45 g,
 diameter 20 mm*

The obverse of this coin shows the head of “Marianne” wearing a Phrygian cap, and the reverse carries the image of a rooster. For this reason, the coin is known as “Marianne and rooster”. Both Marianne and the Gallic rooster are the symbols of France. The 20-franc coins with this image were struck in the years 1906–1914.



Mexico
*50 pesos, 1947,
 gold 0.900, weight 41.67 g,
 diameter 37 mm*

The reverse carries the image of the winged goddess of victory. The coin commemorates Mexico’s independence. The coin was first minted in 1921, on the 100th anniversary of this event. Coins with this image were issued until 1947.



Austria
2,000 schillings,
1990,
gold 0.999, weight 31.10 g,
diameter 37 mm

The coin from the series “Vienna Philharmonic” is one of the bullion coins minted by the Vienna Mint in denominations of 200, 500, 1,000 and 2,000 schillings. The first coins from this series were minted in 1989. From 2002 the “Vienna Philharmonic” coins have denominations in euro.



Indonesia
00,000 rupiah, 1987,
gold 0.917, weight 10.00 g,
diameter 25 mm

This is a coin from the “Wildlife” series. On the reverse the coin carries the image of a Javan Rhino.



Bahamas
20 dollars, 1972,
gold 0.917, weight 6.48 g,
diameter 22 mm

The Bahamas, officially the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, consists of about 700 islands, only 26 of which are inhabited.



Canada
100 dollars, 1977,
gold 0.500,
weight 16.97 g,
diameter 25 mm

The coin was issued to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. The reverse shows a beautiful bouquet of wild flowers.



Jamaica
20 dollars,
1972,
gold 0.500,
weight 15.75 g,
diameter 27 mm

Coin minted to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Jamaica’s independence. The reverse depicts the map of the country above the images of the Cardera, the Nina and the San Juan ships.



South Africa
krugerrand, 1986,
gold 0.917, weight 33.93 g,
diameter 32.7 mm

This is one of the most famous gold bullion coins in the world. The obverse shows the bust of Paul Kruger, President of the Republic of South Africa from 1883 to 1900. The reverse carries the image of the springbok antelope – the national symbol of South Africa.



United Kingdom
25 pounds, 1987,
gold 0.917, weight 8.51 g,
diameter 38.61 mm

The coin, weighing 1/4 of an ounce, is one from a series of bullion coins depicting on the reverse the symbol of this country, Britannia – a woman in an ancient helmet, holding a trident in one hand and a shield in the other hand. This image was designed by Philip Nathan. Coins from this series were minted from 1987 to 2012 using 0.917 fine gold. Since 2013 they have been minted from 0.999 fine gold.



Australia
200 dollars, 1986,
gold 0.917, weight 10.00 g,
diameter 25 mm

The Koala is one of the most famous symbols of Australia. It is not surprising, therefore, that images of this animal frequently appear on coins from that country. The image of a koala clinging to a branch of a eucalyptus tree was designed by the Australian engraver Stuart Devlin.



Seychelles
100 rupees, 1994,
gold 0.999,
weight 3.11 g,
diameter 22 mm

This series of coins was devoted to the endangered wildlife species. The coin held in the collection of the Money Centre depicts a Monarch butterfly.



Australia
 200 dollars, 1992,
 gold 0.999, weight 62.21 g,
 diameter 40.40 mm

The Australian Nugget is a series of gold bullion coins minted since 1986 from gold of the highest purity. Initially, in accordance with the name, the reverse of the coins depicted the largest gold nuggets found on the Australian continent. Since 1989, the series has been featuring various species of kangaroos.



Austria
 500 schillings, 1997,
 gold 0.995, weight 8.04 g,
 diameter 22 mm

The presented gold coin was minted to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Franz Schubert, an Austrian composer and a precursor of romanticism in music.



China
 500 yuans, 2002,
 gold 0.999, weight 15.55 g,
 diameter 27 mm

The giant panda appeared on Chinese gold bullion coins for the first time in 1982. The reverse of the Chinese Gold Panda coins issued every year carries a different image of the animal each time, which means that these coins are a real treat for collectors.



Poland
White-tailed eagle
 500 złoty, 1995,
 gold 0.999, weight 31.1 g,
 diameter 32 mm

In 1995 Narodowy Bank Polski for the first time introduced into circulation a series of gold bullion coins entitled "White-tailed Eagle". The coins are issued each year with face values of 50, 100, 200 and 500 złoty. The coin was designed by Roussanka Nowakowska.

It's worth knowing that gold coins, including both collector coins and bullion coins, don't always have their face value stamped. Their value is expressed in ounces or parts of an ounce of gold. The market value of coins with a denomination is much higher than indicated by the denomination, and depends on the content of the ore from which they were minted. It is influenced by the changes in the prices of gold listed on the London market and the issuer's margin. Sometimes it also happens that coins minted in small series become especially sought after by collectors, which can contribute to a significant increase in their value.



The Vault room.
 Photo: NBP



Showcase containing the gold coins "hanging" on the Christmas tree on our cover.
 Photo: NBP



Polish “Carollers”

The Christmas holidays are an inspiration for many issuers from around the world to put into circulation coins associated with this event. These are often special issues using unique, innovative techniques. “Christmas” coins frequently have unusual shapes – stars, baubles or Christmas trees. They also often include elements executed with the use of enamelling or the pad printing technique, which involves applying ink using a soft punch. These coins also include additional decorations, such as zirconium.

In accordance with this tradition, in 2001 Narodowy Bank Polski put into circulation the “Carollers” coins, with denominations of 2 and 20 złoty. A series was also launched entitled “Polish ritual year”. Both coins were designed by Robert Kotowicz.

The 2 złoty coin was made of an alloy known as Nordic Gold. On the reverse we see the image of a horned beast against the background of a group of carollers with a star as well as a Kraków Nativity Scene.

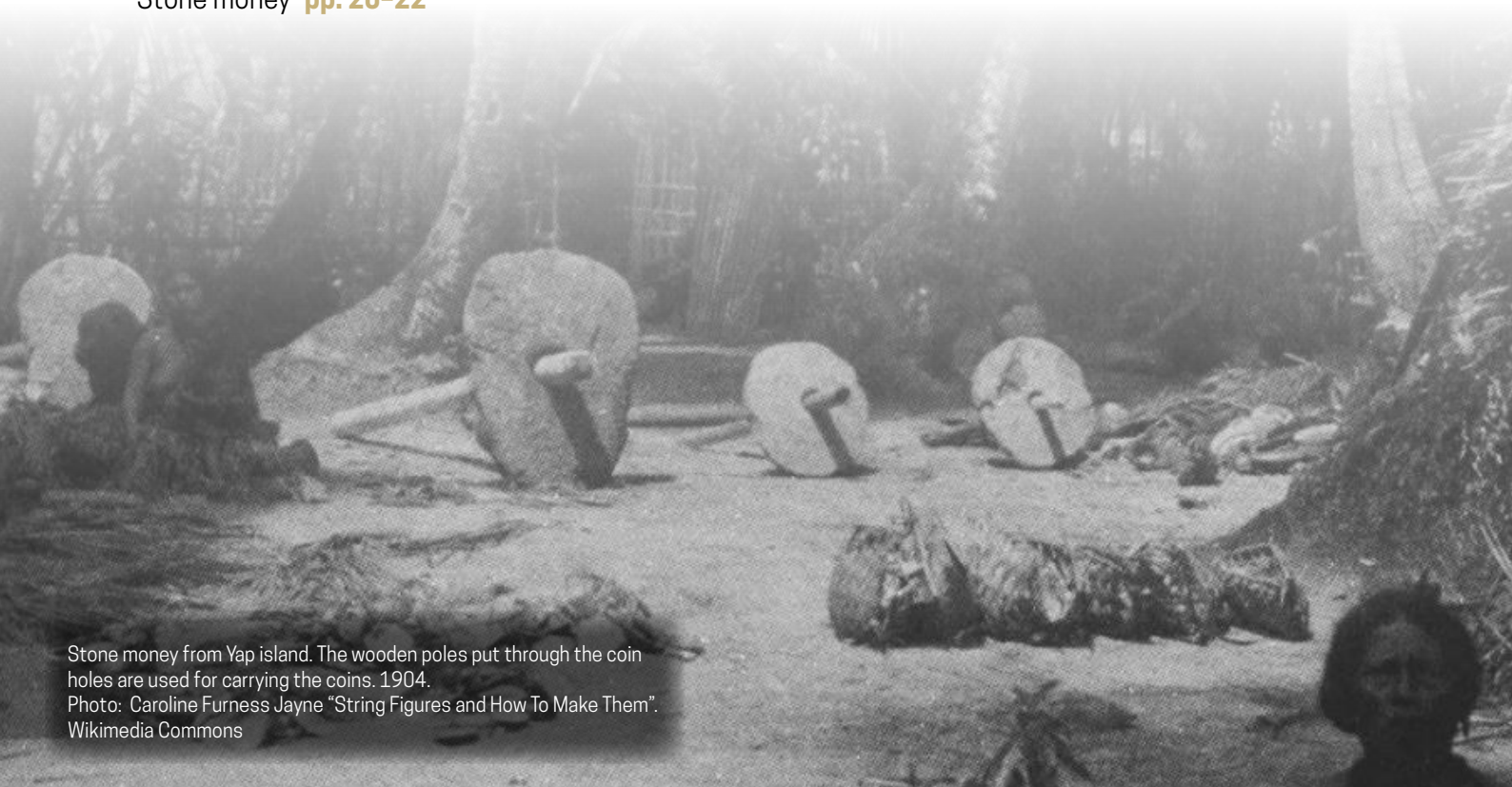
The coin with the denomination of 20 złoty was made from 0.925 oxidized silver. The obverse of the coin shows a Kraków Nativity Scene, and the reverse depicts a group of carollers in a winter scenery. A piece of zirconium is embedded in the star held by one of the carollers.

■ Marcin Madejski

Discovering multimedia... Let's open the showcases...

Economics lessons from Yap island

Stone money **pp. 20-22**



Stone money from Yap island. The wooden poles put through the coin holes are used for carrying the coins. 1904.
Photo: Caroline Furness Jayne "String Figures and How To Make Them".
Wikimedia Commons

Economics lessons from the Yap island Stone Money

The archipelago of Pacific islands is usually associated with paradise beaches, beautiful coral reefs and unique flora and fauna. The exceptional character of this part of the world is also emphasized by the culture and traditions cultivated for centuries by the local population. The communities scattered across the islands of the archipelago have developed not only their own, unique forms of money, but also a settlement mechanism, which – in principle – remains valid to this day.

The extremely original money system originated in the Yap islands archipelago*, located in the western part of the Pacific Ocean (belonging to the Federated States of Micronesia). The island of Yap has a territory of only 100 km² and has a population of a little over 11,000 people. This small part of the archipelago of the Pacific Islands is known for its giant stone money, known as “rai” (in some translations also known as “fei”). The characteristic round disks with holes in the middle initially had a diameter of only several or a dozen centimetres, but over time the Yap currency became the biggest and heaviest money in the world. The weight of these giant “coins” exceeded 7 tonnes, and their diameter reached 4 metres! Because of problems with the transport of such impractical means of payment, the local community invented its own system for the settlement of transactions and management of “cash” without the need to move the money from place to place. In this way, the population of the Pacific islands created the foundations of the system of cashless settlements that we use today.

The study of the stone money from Yap provided contemporary economists and

historians with valuable information. According to some sources, the limestone from which the stone money was made was mined in Palau as early as around 500 AD and

its widespread use began between the 11th and 15th centuries. Meanwhile, local legends and myths go back all the way to ancient times. According to folk tales, the sailors



Rai stone money in the village of Gachpar on Yap Island.
Photo: Eric Guinther, Wikimedia Commons (CC-BY-SA-3.0)

* The Yap State consists of over 130 islands, but the so-called Yap Main Islands comprise 84% of its territory and the majority of the population.

from the island of Yap, led by a warrior named Anagumang, went out fishing, got lost along the way, and accidentally landed on the island of Palau (approx. 450 km away from Yap). On the newly discovered land they saw unique limestone rock structures. These were, as later identified by geologists, aragonite and calcite crystal rocks. Anagumang initially ordered his people to cut out pieces of stone in a shape resembling a whale. In the language used by the inhabitants of Yap this word is „rai”, hence the later name of the discs. In order to facilitate transport, Anagumang eventually ordered the rocks to be cut in a round shape resembling a moon with a hole in the middle. This enabled the transport of the coins on long wooden poles.

The legends concerning the valuable limestone from Palau describe ancient times, but the widespread use of stone discs as means of payment probably began only at the beginning of the 18th century. This is also corroborated by archaeological excavations. Newcomers from the Western world originally came into contact with the Pacific stone money in 1843, when a coin with a diameter of about 61 cm was donated by the leader of Palau to the leader of Yap.

Even before the discovery of these territories by the Europeans and the Americans, the group of Yap islands was an important centre of trade in the Pacific. The rai stones were adopted especially in the settlement of large transactions. The local community treated the stones with great respect, and as items of high value they were a symbol of prestige and wealth. The stone discs were impressive not only due to their size, weight and texture, but also the original glossy colour: they were most commonly found in shades of yellow, white, or brown. In case of necessity the “coins” were moved from place to place using logs inserted in the hole in the stone discs. Two men were usually enough to transport the smaller coins, while the largest stone discs required the involvement of an entire group of



Rai – stone money from the island of Yap. Room: Antiquity – Middle Ages – Modern Times hall
Photo: NBP

the strongest villagers. In the old days (and in some cases even today), the stone money was used to finance important investments: to buy land, allies and even wives.

The mining expeditions were usually ordered by the village chief. For this reason, he was entitled to participate in the profits derived from the trip – he would receive all the largest discs and about two-fifths of the smaller rai stones. This was most likely a rather common form of distribution of goods, which constituted a certain type of tax levied on the residents of Yap. We could say that the village chief served as the equivalent of a central bank – he maintained control over the size of the “cash” turnover, that is, the amount of stone currency in circulation (the money supply).

The stones were originally mined using seashells and primitive stone tools, which required great effort. The transport took at least a week, and every time there was

the risk of an accident or the sinking of an overloaded raft. The distance between Yap and Palau was most often travelled on large but unreliable bamboo rafts and simple boats. On the way back, the heavy and precious load was transported on double canoes, and the stone disks were typically held on a wooden log inserted in the hole. Due to the numerous difficulties associated with such expeditions, the value of the rai stones depended not only on their diameter and quality of execution, but also on the number of sailors who died during transport! The more people who lost their lives during the trip from Palau, the higher the value attributed to the money. Interestingly enough, the value of the rai money did not decrease, even if the cargo sank during transport. It was enough to know where the stone disc was located and under what circumstances it had sunk – in such situations it was for years considered as valuable as a coin lying next to the house.

Due to their size and weight, most stone money was “deposited” in front of the huts along the village roads. The number of “coins” lying near a house indicated the wealth and solvency of their owner. For example, at the beginning of the 20th century, a stone disc with a diameter of about 25 inches (63.5 cm) was enough to buy a large pig, while a rai with a diameter equal to the height of an adult man was enough to buy several villages and plantations. Due to the high value of this currency, in everyday small transactions villagers used traditional barter (exchange of goods for goods) or other forms of “small” money such as turmeric, pearl shells, banana fibre mats or basic household utensils. Interestingly, on the island of Yap rai stones are still treated as collateral for debts and are accepted by victims as a means of material compensation.

The stone money is also associated with the story of David Dean O’Keefe, an American of Irish descent, who accidentally landed on the coast of Yap in 1871. The locals took care of the shipwrecked sailor, and O’Keefe subsequently developed a commercial activity – he purchased ornaments and copra (dried coconut flesh valued, among others, in Western Europe) in exchange for stone disks imported from the island of Palau. He then sold the purchased goods in Hong Kong. Thanks to the use of appropriate metal tools, he was able to easily cut out large stone disks, which he then provided to the Yap village chiefs in exchange for large quantities of copra. Instead of unreliable rafts and canoes, he used ships to transport the stones. In this way, he quickly dominated the copra trade in the region and lived in prosperity for the 30 years of his stay on the island, until his death in 1901. Although O’Keefe made his fortune by using stone rai as a means of payment, his activities contributed to the devaluation of the stone currency. As the mining of stones and their processing became easier and the transport

became safer, their “market” value began to fall.

Over time, the colonial struggles between Germany, Spain, Japan and the United States stopped the production of stone money in Palau. In 1919 the Japanese took control of the island of Yap and remained there until World War II. During this period, more than 13,200 stone circles of different sizes were found on the Yap islands. During the war, almost half of all the stone money was lost or destroyed. The stones were most frequently used as anchors or as building material. In 1945 the island of Yap was occupied by American forces, and the US dollar became the dominant circulation currency.

The stone money from the Yap islands are currently seen as valuable museum exhibits, and also valued because of their commercial and numismatic value. These unique coins are treated as a national treasure and a legally protected cultural heritage of Micronesia.

One interesting fact worth noting is that the example of the rai stone money was used by Milton Friedman in one of his articles in 1991. The American economist compared the Yap monetary system to the gold standard system used in the 20th century. He pointed out that in the years 1932-1933, the Bank of France asked the Federal Reserve System of the United States to exchange the foreign currency reserves denominated in dollars into gold. The mechanism of the symbolic transfer of ownership of gold (the equivalent of the dollar reserve) without the physical transport of the gold bars stored in FED vaults was very similar to the system known from the island of Yap. Other similarities can be noticed in the various forms of “virtual” money (e.g. bitcoin), payment cards or deposits in bank accounts. In each of these cases, the formal title of ownership based on the social contract is more important than the physical possession of the money.

It is therefore not difficult to notice parallels between the payments made on a distant

Pacific island hundreds of years ago, and the modern form of cashless money. Well, let’s imagine that we have a huge stone disc (i.e. a large amount of money), which is located close to our hut (i.e. is deposited in our bank account). In the case of a commercial transaction or making a payment for goods/ services, the owner of the stone (the owner of the money on the account) symbolically transfers the stone (money) to the other person (e.g. makes an electronic transfer of funds to a selected account). The stone remains in its place as there is no need to carry it anywhere, since it is known who its new owner is (similarly, a transfer means a symbolic movement of a specific digital value, symbolizing a specific amount of money, from one account to another, without any cash exchange). As we can see, despite the passage of hundreds of years and the implementation of many modern payment technologies and tools, the mechanism for the settlement of obligations known from the island of Yap is still successfully used in modern financial settlements.

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■ Anna Brzyska

Money museums of the world

Bank of Indonesia Museum in Jakarta p. 24



"Spice, Trade, and Money" - exhibition at the Bank of Indonesia Museum.
Photo: Wikipedia Commons, Danumurthi Mahendra

Bank of Indonesia Museum in Jakarta

Conference on the role of museums as a communication tool

From 2 to 5 September 2017 the Bank Indonesia hosted the 24th conference of ICOMON (ICOM's International Committee for Money and Banking Museums), one of the committees of the International Council of Museums (ICOM). This body brings together numismatic museums and similar institutions popularizing economic knowledge and operating at central banks and financial institutions in the broad sense. The conferences organized by the Committee are an opportunity to exchange experience concerning the acquisition and maintenance of exhibits, applied security solutions and educational activities. The theme of this year's conference was "Money and banking museums: from display to engagement".

The conference was attended by the representatives of many central banks, e.g. Thailand, Indonesia, India, Uganda and China, as well as private numismatic museums (from Moscow and the Netherlands) and universities.

The speakers pointed out the important role of museums as communication tools used for the popularization of historical heritage and the transfer of economic knowledge, as well as the possible use of modern exhibition techniques. While welcoming the guests, the Vice Governor of Bank Indonesia emphasized that the role of museums primarily involves teaching history, and through that, strengthening national identity. The museum operating at Bank Indonesia also fulfils key communication functions. This purpose is served by the exhibitions supported by modern technology and social media.



A room containing the complete collection of Indonesian banknotes over the centuries as well as selected banknotes from all over the world.
Photo: Wikipedia Commons, Danumurthi Mahendra

The conference participants were not only interested in the speeches, but also in the place where they were delivered. The Indonesian Central Bank Museum is housed in a building located in the historical centre of Jakarta. Its fate was closely linked to the history of Indonesia. From the 1830s, that is from colonial times, it was the seat of De Javasche Bank – the central bank of the Dutch East Indies. It also served this purpose during the Japanese occupation in the 1940s, and after Indonesia regained independence. After the bank was moved to its new headquarters, the building began to fall into disrepair. The Indonesian Central Bank Museum was opened in the building in 2009, which helped save the precious historical monument and contributed to the revitalization of the entire area. The Museum building in its present form was built over 100 years ago in the Neo-Renaissance style. It is distinguished by the architectural details and decorative elements typical of the region – stained glass windows, porticos, ceramic ornaments on the walls and floors. These beautiful interiors house an extensive presentation of the history of the state and its long road to independence, as well as the history of money and trade in Indonesia from pre-colonial times to the present day. Visitors enjoy genre scenes depicting, for example, financial operations carried out in the 18th century exchange offices, as well as in a modern commercial bank. We can also take a look at the workshop of a creator of money with the tools used for the execution of coin models. The authors of the exhibition paid meticulous attention to every detail of the costumes worn by the mannequins and the stage design.

■ *Maria Czarnecka*



Many rooms contain carefully depicted scenes related to the history of money and trade in Indonesia.
Photo: NBP

Guests of the NBP Money Centre

From Riga, Yerevan and Bishkek p. 26



Guests from abroad

Until October of this year, the NBP Money Centre was visited by approx. 71,000 people. The employees of the Money Centre estimate that about 5% of the visitors are foreigners. They are the primary audience of the English language version of the Bankoteka magazine.

The NBP Money Centre has recently been visited by many representatives of money museums from other central banks. Jānis Motivāns, Director of the Bank of Latvia Knowledge Centre “Money World”, who visited us a few months ago, wrote that he is sending his colleague from the centre, Helga Lizina, so that she can become acquainted with... “the world’s best money museum run by a central bank” (!). With the help of the International Department of NBP, we were able to provide her with a guided tour along with a German-language interpreter (our activities leaders are prepared for the visits of English-speaking guests).

Other guests learned about the secrets of the Centre with the help of a Russian-language interpreter. Zaruhi Barseghyan, Head of the Visitor Centre of the Central Bank of Armenia, stated that she liked the special

arrangement of the Money Centre but she paid particular attention to the programme and the educational materials. Anzhela Gevorgyan, Coordinator Guide of the Visitor Centre of the Central Bank of Armenia, admitted that she fell in love with our Money Centre from the very first room “Encounters with money” and that in each subsequent room she was impressed by the creation of completely different “spacetimes”. Meanwhile Aida Myrzakulovna Karabaeva, Head of the Department of Social Communication of the National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic, thought that the most memorable exhibitions at the NBP Money Centre were those which allowed the guest to learn about the history of development of the given country through the history of money.

■ SG

Photos: NBP



Helga Lizina (middle) guided by Katarzyna Rokosz and the interpreter Barbara Rysiewicz from the International Department



From the left: Zaruhi Barseghyan and Anzhela Gevorgyan from Armenia.



Aida Myrzakulovna Karabaeva (from the right) and interpreter Aleksandra Skonieczna.

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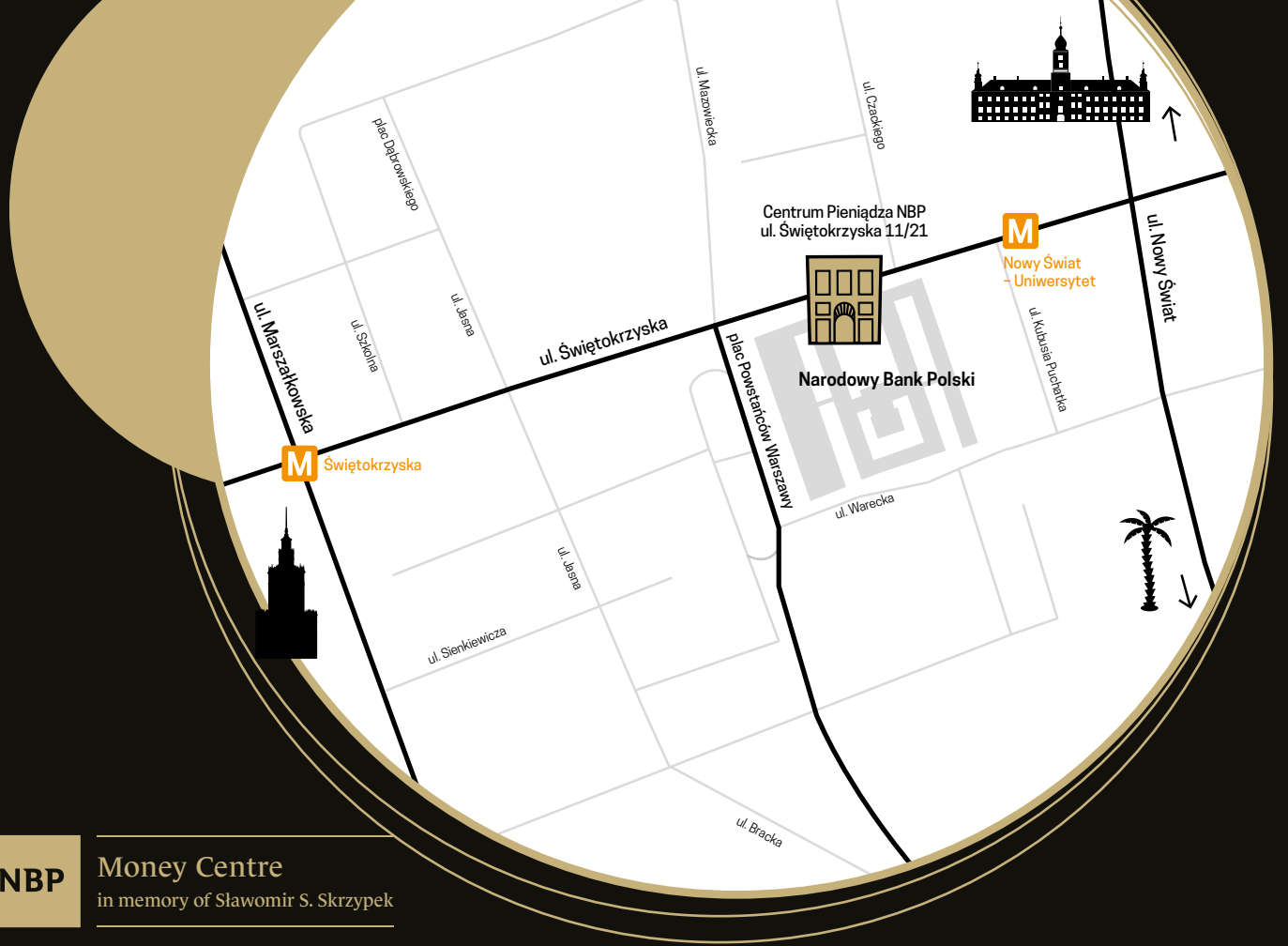
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in memory of Sławomir S. Skrzypek

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Thursday 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Friday – Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

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