

EURO FACTS



BANKA QENDRORE E REPUBLIKËS SË KOSOVËS
CENTRALNA BANKA REPUBLIKE KOSOVA
CENTRAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO



INTRODUCTION

Euro is the official currency for 19 of the 27 EU member states. A long preparatory journey of over 40 years led to the entry of the euro in 2002. The euro is also used in countries that are not part of the European Union such as: Kosovo and Montenegro.



THE SYMBOL

The symbol and the name "euro" were chosen in 1995 at a meeting of the European Council in Madrid.

The symbol € is based on the Greek letter epsilon (€), with the first letter in the word "Europe" and with 2 parallel lines indicating stability.

The ISO code for the euro is EUR. This is used when referring to euro amounts without using the symbol.



THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

The European Central Bank (ECB) and the European Commission are responsible for maintaining the value and stability of the euro and setting the criteria required for EU countries to enter the euro zone.

The European Central Bank is the governing body that oversees euro policy. Its headquarters is located in Frankfurt, Germany. The ECB works closely with the Eurosystem, which is a conglomerate of central banks located in the European Union that oversees the printing, minting and distribution of euro coins and banknotes.



EURO BANKNOTES

There are two series of banknotes.

The first series includes seven different denominations: 5 €, 10 €, 20 €, 50 €, 100 €, 200 € and 500 €.

The second series, or the Europa series, comprises six denominations and was completed with the issuance of € 100 and € 200 on May 28, 2019. The € 500 banknote was not included in the Europa series and as of April 27, 2019 is no longer produced, but is in use.



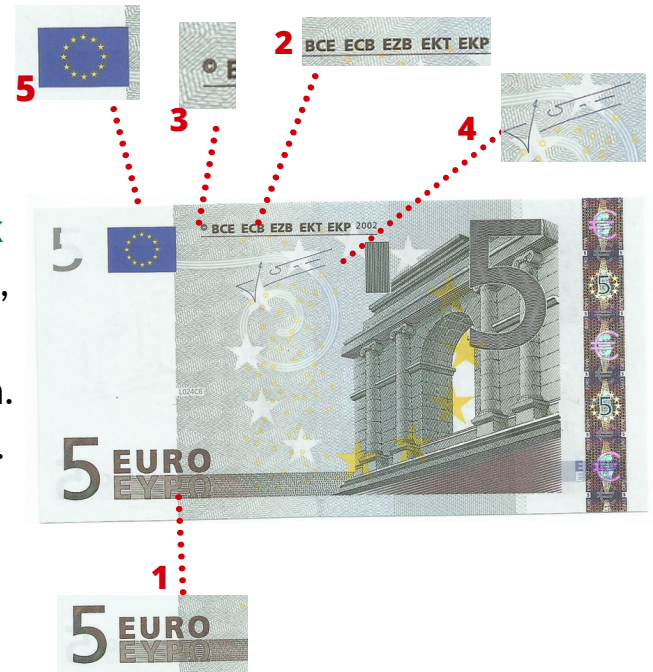
BANKNOTE DESIGN

The design of each banknote has a common theme of European architecture of different artistic eras. The front of the banknote contains windows or entrance gates while the back contains different types of bridges. Architectural examples are stylized illustrations and not representations of existing monuments.



BANKNOTE DESIGN ELEMENTS

1. **The name of the currency** - euro - in both the Latin and Greek alphabets.
2. **The initials of the European Central Bank in five language variants** - BCE, ECB, EZB, EKT and EKP - covering the 11 of the then official languages of European Union.
3. **Symbol ©** indicating copyright protection.
4. **Signature** of the President of the European Central Bank.
5. **Flag of the European Union**

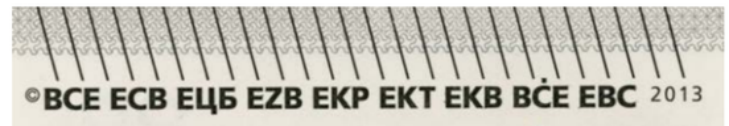


Banknote design elements (continued)

THE INITIALS OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK (ECB)

The first series (the old series)

On all banknotes the initials of the European Central Bank (ECB) are in five language variants.



The Second Series (Europe Series)

On the € 5, € 10 and € 20 banknotes the name ECB is in nine language variants

On the € 50, € 100 and € 200 banknotes, the name ECB is in ten language variants.

BANKNOTE DESIGN ELEMENTS (CONTINUED)

SIGNATURE

On the banknotes in circulation, you can find four signatures that are the signatures of the four presidents of the ECB over the years.



COINS

The series of euro coins includes eight different denominations: 2 €, 1 €, 50, 20, 10, 5, 2, and 1 cent. Euro currencies have a common side and a national side. The national side indicates the issuing country. The common sides of the coins were designed by Mr. Luc Luycx of the Royal Belgian Mint. The coins show images of the European Union or Europe and symbolize the unity of the EU. 1, 2 and 5 cent coins show Europe in relation to Africa and Asia on the globe. Euro coins can be used anywhere in the euro zone.



DESIGN ELEMENTS OF COINS

There are eight mints of euro coins, ranging from one cent to two euros.

- The 2-euro coin has two colors: the inner part is gold, the outer part is silver.
- The 1-euro coin has two colors, but the opposite: the inner part is silver, the outer part is gold.
- The 50 cent, 20 cent and 10 cent coins are all gold.
- The 5 cents, 2 cents and 1 cents are all copper colored.





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