

**New national side of euro coins intended for circulation**

(2009/C 204/05)



*National side of the new commemorative 2-euro coin intended for circulation and issued by the Vatican City State*

Euro coins intended for circulation have legal tender status throughout the euro area. The Commission publishes all new euro coin designs with a view to informing all parties required to handle coins in the course of their work as well as the public at large <sup>(1)</sup>. In accordance with the Council conclusions of 10 February 2009 <sup>(2)</sup>, the Member States and countries that have concluded a monetary agreement with the Community providing for the issuing of euro coins are allowed to issue commemorative euro coins intended for circulation, provided that certain conditions are met, particularly that only the 2-euro denomination is used. These coins have the same technical characteristics as other 2-euro coins, but their national side features a commemorative design that is highly symbolic in national or European terms.

**Issuing country:** Vatican City State

**Subject of commemoration:** International Year of Astronomy

**Description of the design:** The inner part of the coin depicts an allegory of the birth of the stars and planets together with several astronomical instruments. The mint mark 'R' is situated in the bottom left quadrant and the year '2009' is at the bottom. The design is surrounded on the bottom left-hand side by the legend 'ANNO INTERNAZIONALE DELL'ASTRONOMIA' and on the top right-hand side by the name of the issuing country, 'CITTÀ DEL VATICANO'.

The coin's outer ring depicts the 12 stars of the European flag.

**Number of coins to be issued:** 106 084

**Date of issue:** October 2009

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<sup>(1)</sup> See OJ C 373, 28.12.2001, p. 1 for the national sides of all the coins issued in 2002.

<sup>(2)</sup> See the conclusions of the Economic and Financial Affairs Council of 10 February 2009 and the Commission Recommendation of 19 December 2008 on common guidelines for the national sides and the issuance of euro coins intended for circulation (OJ L 9, 14.1.2009, p. 52).