

New national face of euro coins intended for circulation

(2012/C 231/02)

*National face of the new commemorative 2-euro coin intended for circulation and issued by Belgium*

Euro coins intended for circulation are legal tender 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 ⁽¹⁾. In accordance with the Council conclusions of 10 February 2009 ⁽²⁾, 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: Belgium

Subject of commemoration: The 75th anniversary of the Queen Elisabeth Competition

Description of the design:

The inner part of the coin depicts the emblem of the Queen Elisabeth Competition superimposed on the effigy of Queen Elisabeth, looking to the left, flanked on the left and right respectively by the mark of the mint master and the mark of the Brussels mint, a helmeted profile of the Archangel Michael. The years 1937-2012 are inscribed above the effigy, and the words 'QUEEN ELISABETH COMPETITION' below it. The nationality 'BE' is indicated to the right of the portrait of the Queen.

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

Issue volume: 5 million coins

Date of issue: May 2012.

⁽¹⁾ See OJ C 373, 28.12.2001, p. 1 for a reference to all national sides that were issued in 2002.

⁽²⁾ 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).