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New national side of euro coins intended for circulation

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National side of the new commemorative 2-euro coin intended for circulation and issued by France

Euro coins intended for circulation have legal tender status throughout the euro area. For the purpose of informing the public and all parties who handle the coins, the Commission publishes a description of the designs of all new coins ([1]). In accordance with the Council conclusions of 10 February 2009 ([2]), euro-area Member States and countries that have concluded a monetary agreement with the European Union 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 face features a commemorative design that is highly symbolic in national or European terms.

Issuing country: France

Subject of commemoration: 80th anniversary of the publication in France of 'The Little Prince'

Description of the design: To mark the 80th anniversary of the publication in France of 'The Little Prince', the emblematic work of French literature written by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, Monnaie de Paris has chosen to pay tribute to this timeless masterpiece by issuing a new EUR 2 commemorative coin.

The design features the character of The Little Prince at its centre, with the number 80 behind him, symbolising the anniversary of its publication in France. The inscriptions 'RF' and the year date are inserted above and below the character and his name. They are accompanied by Monnaie de Paris' mintmark and the Engraver General's mark.

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

Estimated number of coins to be issued: 315 000

Date of issue: January 2026

([1]) See OJ C 373, 28.12.2001, p. 1 for the national faces of all the coins 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).