

## Celebrating EUROPA Stamps 70th Anniversary – Young European Artists Postcard Design Competition 2026

Organized by the Stamps & Philately Working Group @PostEurop

### Introduction

In 2026, EUROPA stamps celebrate their 70th anniversary. First issued in 1956 by six countries – Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands – the stamps symbolized peace, unity, and cooperation in Europe. Today, the EUROPA stamp family has grown to 53 postal organizations across the continent.

*To mark this milestone, PostEurop invites young European artists and design students to participate in a **postcard design competition**. This is a unique chance for the next generation to showcase their creativity, contribute to philatelic history, and help celebrate the EUROPA legacy.*

### Theme:

Participants are invited to create an original illustration or design that

- Represents the concept of **Unity in Europe**.

### Objectives

- Inspire young artists to express their vision of **Unity in Europe**.
- Highlight the principle of European unity, which has always been – and continues to be – the driving force behind the EUROPA stamp initiative and an essential part of PostEurop's work.
- Encourage appreciation of philately, writing letters and postcards and sending traditional mail among younger generations.

### Who can participate

- Young people and design school students in age **18–25 years** living in countries/ territories authorized to issue EUROPA stamps. List of countries and territories: <https://europastamps.eu/about/authorised-companies>
- One submission per participant.

### Submission Requirements

Participants must submit:

- A digital design file, specifications:
  - **Format:** Portrait or landscape orientation
  - **Dimensions:** 148 × 105 mm
  - **File type:** High-resolution PDF, JPG, TIFF or EPS
  - **Color mode:** CMYK
  - **Resolution:** Minimum 300 dpi, maximum 2400 dpi
  - **Bleed:** 3 mm (optional, if design extends to the edge)
- A short description of the design concept (how it reflects unity in Europe) and creative process (max 50 words).

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- Personal details
  - Full name
  - Age
  - Country of residence
  - Instagram username (or similar online profile)
  - Website address (if available)

## Use of Generative AI

Participants may use generative AI as part of their creative process. However, each submission must be accompanied by a short text explaining the underlying creative idea, the artistic intention, and the crafting process behind the work.

## Jury Disclaimer

The jury reserves the right to disqualify submissions that are purely AI-generated or that lack an original creative concept. This ensures that the winning entry reflects genuine artistic thought and not solely AI-produced imagery.

**Submission method:** Digital submissions, [click here](#)

## Judging & Voting

- Designs will be showcased on the official **EUROPA stamp website**: <https://europastamps.eu/>
- An **expert jury** of internationally recognized designers will evaluate all entries.
- **Three to five winners** will be selected.

## Prizes

- Each winning entry will receive financial award of **€500**.
- The **winning designs** will be:
  - Produced as a printed **framed artwork** and diploma for the artist
  - Produced as **postcard sets**, professionally printed on premium paper.
  - Each winner will receive 25 reference copies of postcard sets.
  - PostEurop members obtain usage rights for the winning design for producing postcards with the winning design during 2026–2027

## Timeline

- Launch of competition / Call for entries: **24 November 2025**
- Deadline for submission: **09 May 2026**
- Expert jury evaluation: **9 May – 9 September 2026**
- **Winners announced and submission exhibited:** October 2026, at the PostEurop General Assembly (date TBC)

## Contact

For questions, please contact:

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