

Detailed Information about:-

EUROPA 1984 Issue

By J. Farrugia

Date of Issue	27th April 1984.
Values	8c and 30c
Stamp Size	35 mm × 26.5 mm
Art Designer	Lino Borg after an original design by J. Larriviere.
Printers	Printex Limited.
Process	Lithography.
Perforation	13.5 × 13.5
Watermark	Maltese Crosses pointing upright
Paper	Chalk Surfaced
Gum	P.V.A.

Colours:-

8c - Dark Green, Gold, and Black.
30c - Deep Red, Gold and Black.

Designs:

This is the fourteenth set in the series of Europa issues. This year being the 25th. Anniversary of CEPT, the design is common to all participating CEPT administrations. This design featuring a bridge symbolizing the links of European countries through posts and telecommunications, was prepared by J. Larriviere and was entered by Monaco in a competition held amongst CEPT member countries. The designs submitted by twenty countries were judged in Vienna during the 1982 CEPT Assembly.

As usual this set is printed in small Panes of ten stamps. Both values are of the horizontal format, and each Pane is divided into twelve spaces, four rows of three. In the first space of the top row, in both values, the CEPT emblem and the two dates 1959 – 1984 can be seen printed in gold. In the first space of the second row, a faint outline of a bridge, similar to the one on both stamps, can also be seen.

The value of a whole Pane of stamps is seen in the top margin, above the middle stamp, printed in black.

Colour checks in the form of coloured discs 3 mm in diameter, are seen in the right hand margin of each Pane, next to the third stamp of the bottom row. The colours from top to bottom in the 8c value are gold, black and green, whilst the corresponding colours used for Pane numbers from left to right are gold, green and black. In the 30c value, they follow the same pattern. Colours checks from top to bottom are gold, black, red, and the Pane numbers from left to right are gold, red, black.

The Printed Sheet of each value, consisted of twelve Panes of ten stamps, A to L.

Plate/Pane Numbers:-

These are seen under the first stamp of the bottom row, in each Pane of both values.

8c = 1A × 3 up to and including IL × 3.
30c = 1A × 3 up to and including IL × 3.

Perforation of Margins:-

The right hand margins of Panes A, B, C and D, of both values, are imperforate, whilst the right hand margins of Panes E, F, G, H, I, J, K and L are fully perforated. The top, bottom and left hand margins of all Panes A to L, in both values are also fully perforated.

PANE 'I' WMK ↑	PANE 'E' WMK ↑	PANE 'A' WMK ↑	From a study of details given, the Printed Sheet of each value, before cutting into Panes, would have looked as shown on left, the perforator running from right to left. Looking at the Printed Sheet as shown, stamps of both values would be seen the right way up, hence why watermark in individual stamps is also upright.
PANE 'J' WMK ↑	PANE 'F' WMK ↑	PANE 'B' WMK ↑	
PANE 'K' WMK ↑	PANE 'G' WMK ↑	PANE 'C' WMK ↑	
PANE 'L' WMK ↑	PANE 'H' WMK ↑	PANE 'D' WMK ↑	

Imprint Blocks:-

The Imprint 'Printex Limited Malta' is seen under the third stamp of the bottom row, in each Pane, of both values. Letters are 1 mm high and printed in black. An Imprint Block of four will also include the colour checks.

A special handstamp was used for cancellation on the first day of issue. A line drawing of a bridge is also incorporated in the postmark. The set remained on sale up to Thursday, 15th November, 1984.

A Postal Card was also issued on the occasion of Malta's participation in the 'Espana '84' World Stamp Exhibition which was held in Madrid. The Postal Card having the Europa 1984 stamps printed on it, was available for sale from the 27th April to 6th May, 1984. It could have been bought in mint condition or with the imprinted stamps cancelled with the 'Espana '84' special postmark. The stamps could also have been cancelled with the first day of issue postmark of the Europa '84 postage set.