

Bratislava Castle with the flags of Slovakia and the European Union



Slovakia adopted the euro on 1 January 2009

Joining the European Union in 2004 was an important milestone in the short history of independent Slovakia. EU membership has brought new possibilities to the country, raised its credibility and helped it to achieve a respected position. Slovakia has gained many economic benefits, including access to EU funds. These benefits were amplified when the country joined the Schengen area in 2007 and the euro area in 2009. Conditions for eliminating trade barriers have been created, along with new opportunities for business and for foreign capital inflows. With EU membership, Slovakia is also fully involved in modern practices within a community of countries that forms one of the richest regions in the world. Slovakia is currently one of Europe's most rapidly developing countries.

Coin details

Denomination: €25

Composition: 999 silver

Weight: 31.10 g (1 oz)

Diameter: 40 mm

Edge: relief elements of 'Čičmany village' ornamentation

Issuing volume: limited to a maximum of 11 000

(including brilliant uncirculated and proof quality)

Designer: Pavel Károly

Engraver: Dalibor Schmidt

Producer: Mincovňa Kremnica

The obverse of the coin depicts the Czechoslovak flag transforming into the Slovak flag in a U-shape composition, symbolising the establishment of the Slovak Republic. Above the Slovak flag is an image of Bratislava castle. Two symbols of Czechoslovakia are depicted in the lower part of the design, linking the ends of the two flags: Charles Bridge in Prague and Kriváň Peak in Slovakia's High Tatra Mountains. The coin's denomination and currency '25 EURO' appear in two lines between the vertical flags. At the lower right side, in semi-circle, is the name of the issuing country 'SLOVENSKO' and the year of issuance '2018'.

The reverse design symbolises Slovakia's entry into the European Union and euro area by showing a stylised portal arching over both a map of Slovakia and a euro symbol surrounded by EU stars (some covered by the map). From the left edge to the bottom, in semi-circle, is the inscription '25 ROKOV SLOVENSKEJ REPUBLIKY' (25 years of the Slovak Republic). The date of the country's establishment '1. 1. 1993' appears below the map of Slovakia. Above the date are the mint mark of the Kremnica Mint (Mincovňa Kremnica), consisting of the initials 'MK' and the stylised letters 'PK', the initials of the coin's designer, Pavel Károly.





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Celebrations in Bratislava's SNP Square on 1 January 1993, the day of the Slovak Republic's establishment as an independent state



The end of communist rule in November 1989 opened the way for negotiations to establish a working federal state to replace what up to then had been only a nominal federal state. With no agreement in sight even after parliamentary elections in 1992, preparations began for dissolving the country into two separate states, notwithstanding opposition from significant sections of the public in both the Slovak and Czech parts. On 17 July 1992 the Slovak National Council adopted the Declaration on the Sovereignty of the Slovak Republic and on 1 September 1992 it adopted the Constitution of the Slovak Republic.



Grassalkovich Palace, the official residence of the president of the Slovak Republic



The Constitution of the Slovak Republic, adopted on 1 September 1992



Signing of the contract for the production of Slovak banknotes, February 1993



Ceremonial signing of the Slovak Constitution at Bratislava Castle on 3 September 1992



The first Slovak koruna coins

The process by which the Slovaks became a modern European nation culminated on 1 January 1993 with the establishment of an independent state – the Slovak Republic. The Slovak people had finally achieved national emancipation, the struggle for which began in earnest with the activities of the 'Štúr' generation and continued with the memorandum movement of 1861, with the political activities of Slovak representatives in multinational Hungary, and with Slovaks' political and cultural contributions to Czechoslovakia after its establishment in 1918.

The amicable dissolution of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic (the country's name from 1990) is still widely admired, especially abroad. It was fundamentally different from the near simultaneous break-up of Yugoslavia, which resulted in prolonged wars, and from the bloody national conflicts that broke out in several former Soviet Republics.

Slovaks have become an equal partner with other countries. From the first days of its existence Slovakia had to address complex economic issues (including the introduction of a new currency), build up economic and political institutions, and establish itself on the international scene. In the year it was established, Slovakia joined the United Nations and the Council of Europe and signed the European Community Association Agreement. In 2000 the country joined the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.