

PHILATELY OF OCCUPIED MONTENEGRO

The first stamps to be issued by Montenegro were in 1874, coinciding with the opening of the first post office for public use. For the most part, the philately has been sparse and unremarkable marking parochial and constitutional events involving Prince Nicholas, later King of Montenegro.

In 1905, a new Constitution was passed in Montenegro; a change in currency followed in 1907. On the 50th anniversary of the reign of Prince Nicholas in 1910, he was crowned King of Montenegro and the principality was proclaimed a kingdom. On 13 November 1918 Montenegro was united with Serbia; in 1922 it became part of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes; and in 1929 this structure became the Kingdom of Yugoslavia.

Montenegro was occupied by Italy in 1941 and then Germany in 1943. The two established the Protectorate of Montenegro in 1941, issuing stamps until 1944. After 1944 Montenegro became a part of Yugoslavia with no separate stamp issues.

Montenegro is represented in this healthcare collection exclusively by one set of stamps issued in 1944, that is during the German Occupation. This is made up of surcharged Yugoslavian stamps overprinted with a Red Cross and **Crveni krat Montenegro**.