

# The Philatelic Journalist

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Bern, Kramgasse mit Zähringerbrunnen und Zytgloggeturm

Foto Wikipedia/Joachim Kohler-HB

**BERNABA 2025 • EuroPhilEx Birmingham 2025 • Faszination, Reiz und Bedeutung der Philatelistischen Literatur • Fascination, appeal and significance of philatelic Literature • AIJP-Kongress 2025 – Neuwahl des Vorstandes / Election of the new board / Ari Muhonen Philatelic Curriculum Vitae • Impressions of the remarkable HAFNIA 2024 / Impressionen von der sehenswerten HAFNIA 2024 • Digital oder gedruckt? / Digital or printed?...**

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# BERNABA/Multilateral 2025 – 175 years of Federal stamps

## National + Multilateral Stamp Exhibition Level I



### Bernaba OC

When: 14 to 17 May 2025  
 Where: BernExpo Bern/Switzerland  
 Contact: [barbara.scherrer@fors.ch](mailto:barbara.scherrer@fors.ch)  
 Homepage: [www.bernaba25.ch](http://www.bernaba25.ch)

From 14 to 17 May 2025, Bern will become the centre of philately and offer a varied programme for collectors and interested visitors. BERNABA/Multilaterale will be celebrating the 175th anniversary of the first Swiss Federal stamps.

stand as the main partner, the Royal Philatelic Society London, among others, will be inviting visitors to come and talk to them.

### Competition classes

After the closing date for applications expired on 7 December 2024, the exhibition committee met and decided whether to accept the exhibits. Fortunately, only one of the applications received had to be rejected because it did not fulfil the qualification criteria. We are pleased to present below a compilation of the 122 exhibits for the BERNABA National Exhibition and the 98 for the BERNABA Multilateral Exhibition.



Foto: Switzerland Tourism, Jan Geerk

### Highlights and activities

The heart of the event is the traditional competitive exhibition. Collectors from the seven multilateral countries will present their treasures, which will be evaluated by a high-level jury. In addition to the grand appearance of Swiss Post, further postal administrations as well as numerous dealers, associations and philatelic study groups will also be present. At the Corinthia

	Exhibits	Frames
Master class (national only)	8	64
Traditional philately	27	171
Postal history	75	462
Postal stationery	12	58
Aerophilately	15	89
Astrophilately	1	5
Thematic Philately	23	124
Maximaphilately	1	5
Fiscal philately	1	5
Special aspects (national only)	7	50
Literature		27
Picture postcards	6	32
Open Philately	8	39
Youth: Age group A	4	10
Youth: Age group B	5	17
Youth: Age group C		--
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>1'131</b>



## Stand holders

We are pleased to be able to bring you an attractive range of dealers. Currently, 24 dealers have registered to offer their treasures. In addition to Swiss Post, which will be operating a special post office, we have been able to win four postal administrations as well as the UPU (Universal Postal Union) and the UNPA (United Nations Postal Administration) to be represented. Of course, various study groups and associations will also be on hand to familiarise you with their specific topics. At 16 stands, you will thus have the opportunity to immerse yourself in the diversity of philately.

## Workshops und Aktivitäten

The exhibition offers a wide range of workshops and activities. For example, a historic horse-drawn stagecoach invites visitors to have a ride, and a Bernese postman in the traditional costume of the Fischer Post will be selling tombola tickets on the exhibition grounds and will be happy to pose for photos. Visitors can take part in workshops on calligraphy, paper-making and lithography. A genealogist will take you on a family journey into the past and help you decipher old letters. At various points in the exhibition, QR codes provide access to audio information in various languages. Lectures take visitors on exciting journeys through a variety of topics. To mark the anniversary of Switzerland's first Federal stamps, you can have a go at plating the Rayon stamps. Of course, you will also be given the opportunity to create your own stamps and mint coins.

Thanks to numerous sponsors, visitors can look forward to an attractive tombola. The tickets offer the chance to win everything from instant prizes to the grand prizes, which will be revealed in an exciting special drawing.

## Special exhibitions

The special exhibitions include a particular highlight: a part of the legendary personal stamp collection of King Charles III will

be on display. There will also be unique exhibits to mark the 175th anniversary of the first Swiss Federal stamps. Another highlight is the 20th International Competition Class of the UPU, which will be present at Bernaba in 2025. Last but not least, Mani Affolter will be showing us his extensive collection of Swiss crypto stamps.

You will find all additional details and information in our exhibition catalogue, which can be purchased as a hardcover copy in addition to the free softcover copy. The hardcover copy will be free of adverts and will be distributed with a trade fair pin in return for a patron's contribution.

## BERNABA stamps

BERNABA Organising Committee has already issued two company stamps for the exhibition (see next page), featuring pictures of Biel/Bienne and Bern as organising cities. The first issue was launched in May 2023, two years in advance of the exhibition. A short time later, due to a sell-out of the mint copies and in time for the Swiss Post tariff change, a second issue at a postage rate of 1.20 CHF was produced. The second design was issued in May 2024, one year before the start of the exhibition. We are pleased to inform you that the trilogy will be completed with the third stamp for BERNABA 2025. All three motifs were designed by the talented young graphic artist Kimberley Senn.

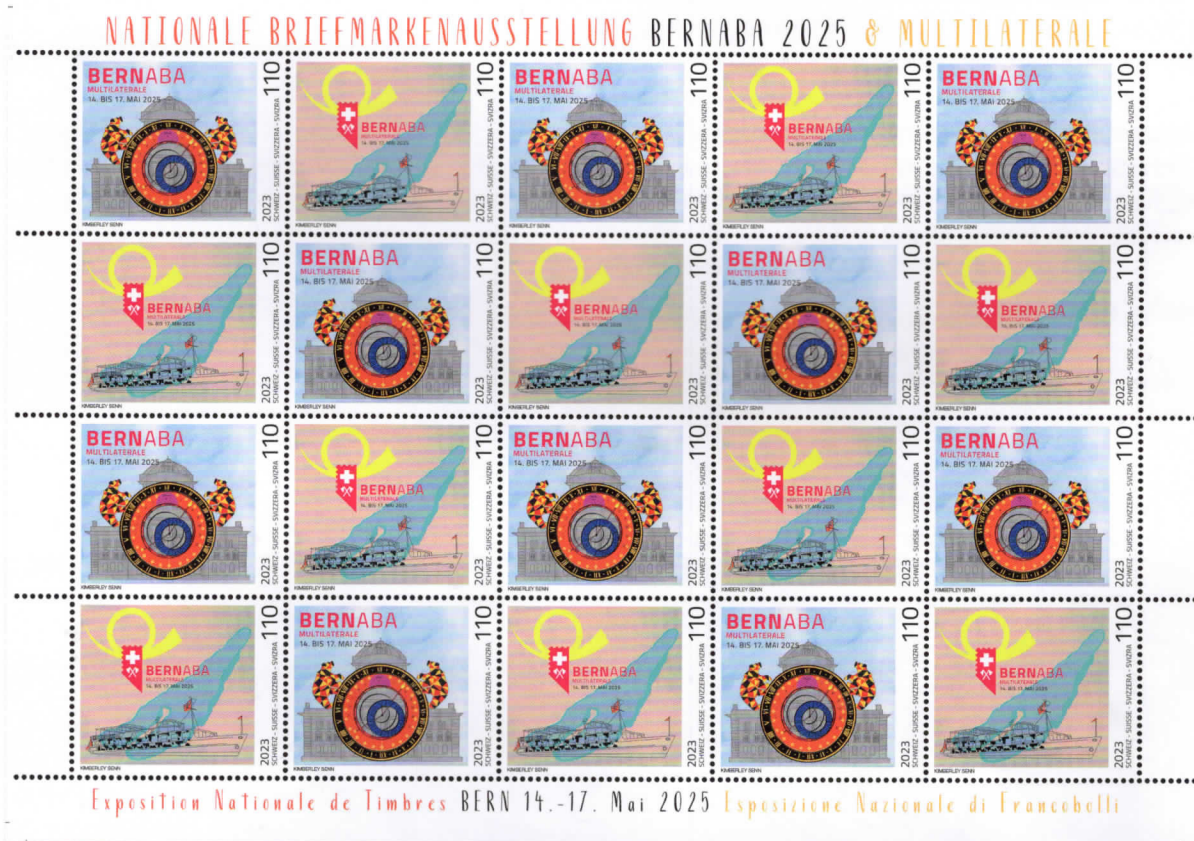
## Multilateral

The Multilateral Community is an association of seven countries: Germany, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Switzerland and Slovenia.

It coordinates its association activities, supports youth philately and is committed to jointly combatting counterfeiting. A joint exhibition is organised once every two years in a rotating format in the member countries.







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