

No. 106

June 24, 2025

FIDE, 100th Anniversary

On June 27, 2025 the Ministry of Digital Development and Innovative Technologies of the Kyrgyz Republic puts into circulation a series of 2024 Kyrgyz Express Post postage stamps: "FIDE, 100th Anniversary".

One of the most renowned sports organizations in the world, the **International Chess Federation** (French: Fédération Internationale des Échecs, **FIDE**), celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2024.

FIDE is an international organization uniting national chess federations (more than 200 members). Its mission is to popularize chess, organize events such as the Candidates Tournaments, World Championship matches, Chess Olympiads and other international chess tournaments. The federation also awards sports titles, calculates and publishes official ratings of chess players worldwide. In 1999, FIDE was recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) as an international governing body for a sport that is not included in the Olympic program.

FIDE was founded on July 20, 1924, in Paris during the VIII Summer Olympic Games. Pierre Vincent (1878–1956), the General Secretary of the French Chess Federation, played a major role in the founding of FIDE.

Currently, chess is one of the most popular sports in the world. According to FIDE, tens of millions of players around the world play an average of over 60 million chess games every day.

KEP stamps feature portraits of outstanding world chess players. The 150 KGS stamp depicts Wilhelm Steinitz (1836–1900), the first World Chess Champion, and Vera Menchik (1906–1944), the first Women's World Chess Champion. The 300 KGS stamp features Mikhail Botvinnik (1911–1995) and Bobby Fischer (1943–2008), the sixth and eleventh World Champions, respectively. The coupons of the miniature sheet show a group photograph of the participants of the chess tournament in Paris (1924), which marked the founding of the International Chess Federation. KEP sincerely thanks FIDE for the opportunity to use this photo in the design of the stamp sheet.

Chess is a very popular sport in the Kyrgyz Republic. The Kyrgyz Chess Union (KCU) became a member of FIDE in 1992 and holds voting rights at the sessions of the General Assembly, which is the highest legislative and executive body of FIDE.

KEP expresses confidence that this new issue of postage stamps will contribute to the promotion and development of chess in Kyrgyzstan and around the world.

For this series, KEP also issues two postcards, which are used to realize two maximum cards.

Stamps description

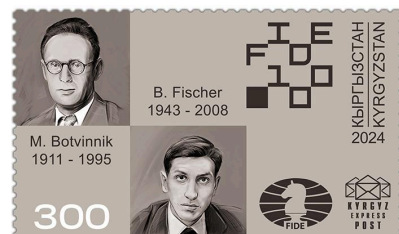
No. **240**. 150 KGS.
Wilhelm Steinitz and Vera Menchik

No. **241**. 300 KGS.
Mikhail Botvinnik and Bobby Fischer

No. 240



No. 241



Technical specifications

Paper: coated, gummed, 105 g/m².

Printing method: full-color offset lithography.

Stamps perforation: comb 14:14½.

Stamps size: 46 × 27.5 mm.

Stamps are issued in collective minisheets of 8 stamps with two labels.

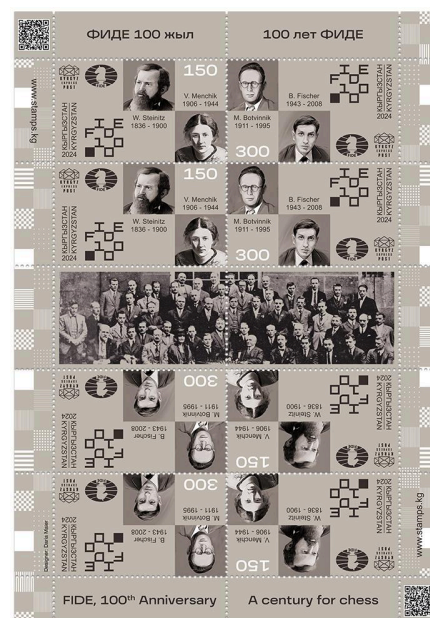
The coupons show a group photograph of the participants of the chess tournament in Paris (1924).

Collective minisheet size: 113 × 163 mm.

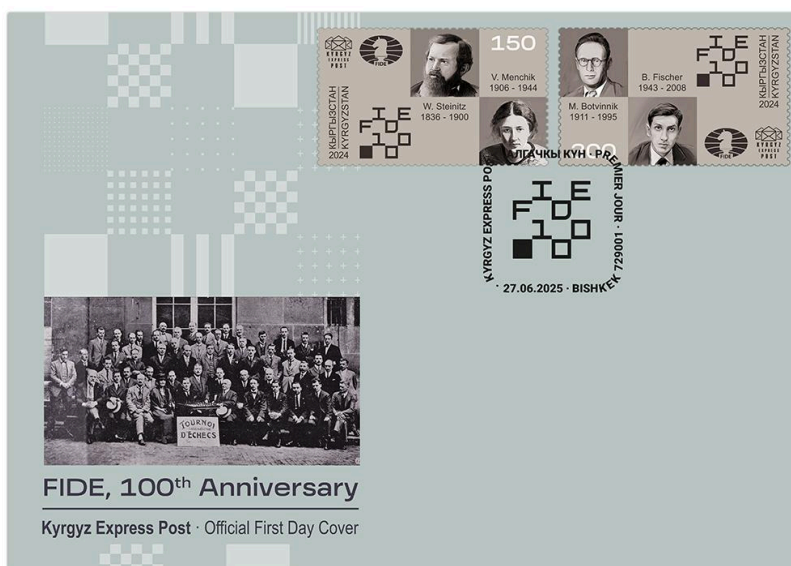
Quantity issued: 7 000 pieces each stamp.

Designer: Daria Maier.

Printer House: "Nova Imprim" (Chişinău, Moldova).



A special cancellation on FDC will be carried out at the Bishkek KEP Office (729001) on the stamps issuing day.



The first day cover, postcards and special postmark are designed by Daria Maier.

Cover size: C6 (162 x 114 mm).

Quantity of covers and postcards issued: 400 pieces each.

Endorsing ink color: black.

