



SUMMARY

MINT SETS OF CROATIAN CIRCULATING AND COMMEMORATIVE CIRCULATING COINS OF KUNA AND LIPA

The author describes Croatian circulating and commemorative circulating coins in kunas and lipas, types of coins that circulated at the same time and whose basic function was to secure monetary circulation.

Circulating coins, especially the smallest denomination or denominations, may over time become unsuitable for monetary circulation for various reasons. The primary reason can be the loss of their purchasing power, but there can also be other situations such as their acceptance/non-acceptance by the user, an increase in the cost of their production when it exceeds their nominal value,¹ or other reasons. At the same time, depending on the monetary policy in issuing circulating coins, especially if there is economising in issuing money to reflect the annual needs for a particular denomination, there may be interruptions in issuing continuity. Some countries, even under such circumstances, issue all the denominations of these coins for the purposes of completing mint sets. This, in a certain way, ensures continuity in their issuance. These coins are often issued in higher quality than the same coins intended for monetary circulation.

The Republic of Croatia issued all the denominations of kuna and lipa circulating coins every year from 1993 to and including 2022, but in 7 years (2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2018) the denominations of 1 lipa and 2 lipas were issued only in mint sets and in higher quality than in other years.

A set of all the denominations of coins issued in one year, or of all the denominations of coins regardless of year, as a rule belonging to one issuing country, in any kind of packaging, is called a mint set. Mint sets are generally issued by countries of their own coins² or, more rarely, they are issued unofficially (by banks, trading companies, associations, etc.). Mint sets usually consist of circulating and/or commemorative circulating coins. They often contain, in addition to coins, mint medals (tokens), commemorative medals and banknotes.

Mint sets differ in the quality of the coins they contain. In general, they also contain various inscriptions (issuing country, coat of arms, some appropriate text, indicated quality of coins, number of coins issued, etc.).

The Republic of Croatia issued official mint sets of circulating denominations of kuna/lipa from 1993 to 2022 in continuity, and mint sets of commemorative circulating coins. Mint sets of commemorative circulating coins were issued continuously from 1994 to 2013. Other commemorative circulating coins were not in mint sets.

Key words: *mint sets, circulating metal coin, commemorative circulating metal coin, kuna, lipa*