

PHILATELY OF BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN MILITARY POST

Bosnia and Herzegovina is a country on the Balkan Peninsula in south-eastern Europe. Culturally, politically, and socially, the country has a rich history. In the 12th century the Banate of Bosnia was established; this evolved into the Kingdom of Bosnia in the 14th century, after which it was annexed into the Ottoman Empire, under whose rule it remained from the mid-15th to the late 19th centuries. This was followed by annexation into the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, which lasted up until World War I. In the interwar period, Bosnia and Herzegovina was part of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia and after World War II, it was granted full republic status in the newly formed Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Following the dissolution of Yugoslavia, the republic proclaimed independence in 1992, which was followed by the Bosnian War, lasting until late 1995.

The first issue in 1879 for Bosnia and Herzegovina, soon after its occupation by Austria-Hungary in 1878. Stamps beautifully engraved on white paper with a text *Bosnien Herzegowina* replaced these in 1906. It produced a number of military postage stamps in the 1910s, many of them depicting Emperor Franz Josef I of Austria. As part of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, in 1918 Bosnia and Herzegovina issued overprints marked DRZAVA S.H.S. Bosna Hercegovina and KRALJEVSTVO Srba, Hrvata : Slovenaca.

Only in 1931 did the name of Kingdom of Yugoslavia appear on stamps. The region used Yugoslavian stamps until becoming independent in 1992.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is represented in this healthcare collection by three sets of stamps issued 1916-1918 and elsewhere in the collection by a further 2 sets 1918-1919.

R M Pelteret Wednesday, 19 September 2018,