The National Bank of Poland holds the exclusive right to issue the currency in the Republic of Poland.

In addition to coins and notes for general circulation, the NBP issues collector coins and notes. Issuing collector items is an occasion to commemorate important historic figures and anniversaries, as well as to develop the interest of the public in Polish culture, science and tradition.

Since 1996, the NBP has also been issuing occasional 2 złoty coins, struck in Nordic Gold, for general circulation.

All coins and notes issued by the NBP are legal tender in Poland.

Information on the issue schedule and on how to purchase the coins can be found at the www.nbp.pl website.

The coins were struck at the Mint of Poland in Warsaw.
Edited and printed: NBP Printing Office
The Jews, who were Polish residents, perished as a result of World War II and ensuing Nazi occupation. The 3.5 million-strong Jewish population was destroyed by cruel terror, forced settlement in ghettos and mass extermination in the gas chambers of Treblinka, Auschwitz and Belzec.

Helping Jews in Poland was punishable by death. Against the background of such a grim reality, special respect is commanded by the conduct – humanitarian, full of courage and bravery – of those Poles who dared to save Jews, inevitably exposing themselves and their families to death.

**Irena Sender** (1900–2008). Before World War II, she worked as a social worker in the Social Care and Public Health Division. When persecution of Jews had started, she organized a network of social workers who jointly created a secret Jewish aid organization.

The social workers smuggled food, medicine and vaccines against typhoid into the ghetto which had been created in November 1940.

At the turn of 1941–1942, large numbers of ghetto Jews were dying of starvation and diseases. The group of social workers decided, with the approval of Jewish organisations in the ghetto, to rescue Jewish children. They were led out in different ways and then placed in Polish families or convent orphanages.

At the end of 1942, the Polish Council to Aid Jews was set up and Irena Sender became the head of children’s department.

**Zofia Kossak** (1890–1968) is known as an outstanding writer. She was a co-founder and ideologist of the Front for the Rebirth of Poland (FRi), an underground social and Catholic organisation created in 1940.

In the summer of 1942, together with Wanda Filipowicz, Witold Bienkowski, Władysław Bartoszewski, Janina Wątowicz, Stefan Szwedowski and other social and political activists, she initiated setting up the Committee to Aid Jews, later on renamed to the Konrad Żegota Provisional Committee to Aid Jews. The code name “Żegota”, coined by Zofia Kossak, was retained in the future name of the Council to Aid Jews which was founded in December 1942.

„Żegota” has remained for ever a symbol of aid provided to the Jews during the time of Nazi occupation.

In August 1942, when Warsaw ghetto inhabitants were deported to the extermination camp in Treblinka, the FRi issued a leaflet against Protest by Zofia Kossak, where she wrote that the world was looking at that crime, most dreadful than anything ever seen before, and kept silent. Anyone who keeps silent in the face of massacre becomes an accomplice in murder. The one who does not condemn it – consents to it.

The work and activity of Zofia Kossak considerably influenced and strengthened Polish people belief that it was necessary to help the Jews.

**Sister Matylda Getter** (1870–1968) was greatly devoted to educational and didactic activity, already before World War II. She was the Mother Superior of the Warsaw province of the Congregation of the Franciscan Sisters of the Family of Mary. On the outbreak of World War II, Sister Matylda Getter was nearly 70 years old but the age did not prevent her from helping the needy persecuted by invaders.

Her energy, wisdom, practicality, and courage lit fully up at the war.

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The activity of these wonderful women has been highly appraised by Israel’s Yad Vashem (the Holocaust Martyrs’ and Heroes’ Remembrance Authority in Jerusalem) which recognised them as one of the first “Righteous among the Nations”.

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