

Berne, 28 July 2014 International Bureau Circular

136

Ukraine – Statement concerning postage stamp issues

Dear Sir/Madam.

The designated operator of **UKRAINE**, Ukrainian State Enterprise of Posts Ukrposhta, has asked me to circulate the following statement for the attention of all member countries of the Union:

"On 19 and 20 June 2014, the Russian Federation put into circulation two postage stamps in the series 'Russia. Regions. The Republic of Crimea' and 'Russia. Regions. The City with Federal Status Sevastopol'.

"At issue is the violation by the Russian Federation of the territorial sovereignty of Ukraine, namely, the annexation of a part of Ukrainian territory, the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

"On 27 March 2014, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 68/262 regarding the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine in accordance with its internationally recognized borders. The General Assembly called on its member states not to recognize any alterations of the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

"Therefore, the issuance of postage stamps in the series 'Russia. Regions. The Republic of Crimea' and 'Russia. Regions. The City with Federal Status Sevastopol' by the Russian Federation does not comply with the provision of article 8 of the Universal Postal Convention. The Ukrainian State Enterprise of Posts Ukrposhta would like to note that the subject chosen by the Russian Federation for the stamps is incompatible with the above-mentioned provisions; hence Ukrposhta cannot recognize the stamp issues in question."

Yours faithfully,

Raquel Ferrari Acting Director of Markets Development