Obverse

The coin's obverse design is divided into four quarters by a cross whose upper arm is filled with a sequence of circular decorative elements. Two plaques from a Moravian-era portable altar found at Bojná are depicted in the upper half of the coin, one in each quadrant. The lower arm of the cross is overlaid with the Slovak coat of arms, positioned between two symmetrically tilted Great Moravian crosses. The name of the issuing country 'SLOVENSKO' is inscribed along the lower edge of the design, while the year of issuance '2019' appears at the top. The currency denomination '100' and the currency name 'EURO' are inscribed on, respectively, the left and right arms of the cross, and they are separated by a circular decorative element. At the end of the left arm there are two marks: the mint mark of the Kremnica Mint (Mincovňa Kremnica), consisting of the letters 'MK' placed between two dies; and the mark of the designer, Miroslav Schovanec.

Reverse

The reverse design depicts an imagined portrait of Mojmir I, ruler of Great Moravia, set against a background of decorative engraving. To the left of the portrait is the year '833', when the reign of Mojmir I began, and to the right is the year '846', when it ended. The inscription 'VEĽKOMORAVSKÉ KNIEŽA MOJMÍR I.' (Great Moravian prince, Mojmir I) appears in semicircle along the edge of the design, running down from the upper left and back up to the upper right. Along the rest of the design's upper edge is a sequence of decorative circular elements.

Coin details

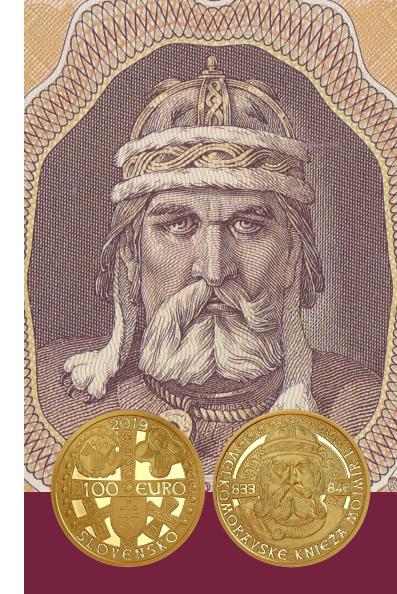|	
Denomination:	€100
Composition:	.900 gold, .075 silver, .025 copper
Weight:	9.5 g
Diameter:	26 mm
Edge:	milled
Issuing volume:	limited to a maximum of 5,000 coins in proof quality
Designer:	Miroslav Schovanec
Engraver:	Dalibor Schmidt
Producer:	Kremnica Mint (Slovakia)

www.nbs.sk

Mojmir I, ruler of Great Moravia

GOLD COLLECTOR COIN

At the end of 822 the Frankish king and emperor, Louis the Pious, received emissaries from a number of tribes, including the Obotrites, Polabian Sorbs, Veleti, Czechs, Moravians, Braničevci, and Upper Pannonian Avars. The inclusion of the Moravians in the record of the event is the earliest known reference to this tribe, which at that time was ruled by the House of Mojmir (spelt Mojmír in Slovak).

Foundations of a 9th century church in Mikulčice

The first known ruler from this house was Mojmir I. It is not known when he was born, nor when he became ruler. Mojmir's Principality of Moravia was bordered on the east by the Principality of Nitra, ruled by Pribina. Although Moravia was then not necessarily much greater than Nitra in terms of territory or military strength, Mojmir himself was far more secure

in his position than was Pribina. His power was such that he, with support from the Bishop of Passau and the prelate's missionaries, had already begun the Christianisation of his principality. As was later recorded in the History of the Bishops of Passau, Bishop Reginhar of Passau "baptised all the Moravians" in 831, including Mojmir himself, Mojmir's family and entourage

Great Moravian cross from Mikulčice

members, and other leading Moravians. Pribina was still only contemplating that step. Soon after the christening of the Moravians, the two rulers fell into a dispute that escalated into war. In 833 Mojmir drove Pribina from Nitra and annexed Pribina's lands to Moravia, thus making himself the ruler of an expanded state that historians named Great Moravia. In 833 Mojmir opened up

the newly conquered and hitherto pagan territory to Christian missionary activity. The fact that the formerly separate principalities now came under the same ecclesiastical jurisdiction was important for the political unity of Mojmir's expanded state.

Great Moravia was an independent principality and, at the same time, a peripheral, largely free part of the broad borderlands of the Frankish (later East Frankish) Empire. This situation had both benefits and drawbacks. One advantage was that the Great Moravian ruler had a mandate to involve himself in the affairs of the imperial borderlands and in the empire himself, while a disadvantage was his greater dependence on the empire. Mojmir I and all subsequent rulers of Great Moravia learnt to be artful – to exploit the opportunities and avoid the pitfalls of their double-sided position. The Moravians, though, wanted to end their dependence on the empire. According to testimony in the East Frankish Annals of Fulda, the Moravians, "striving for independence", were defeated in August 846 by the East Frankish king, Louis the German, who "arranged and settled everything as he saw fit and installed Rastislav, Mojmir's nephew, as ruler".

Mojmir I was deposed in 846, after a reign in which he strengthened princely power over Moravian society, unified the principalities of Moravia and Nitra, and opened the way to the Christianisation of both polities. This was a key development in their transition from clannish societies to a single state with an absolute ruler. Great Moravia was the first state in the history of the Slovak nation.