

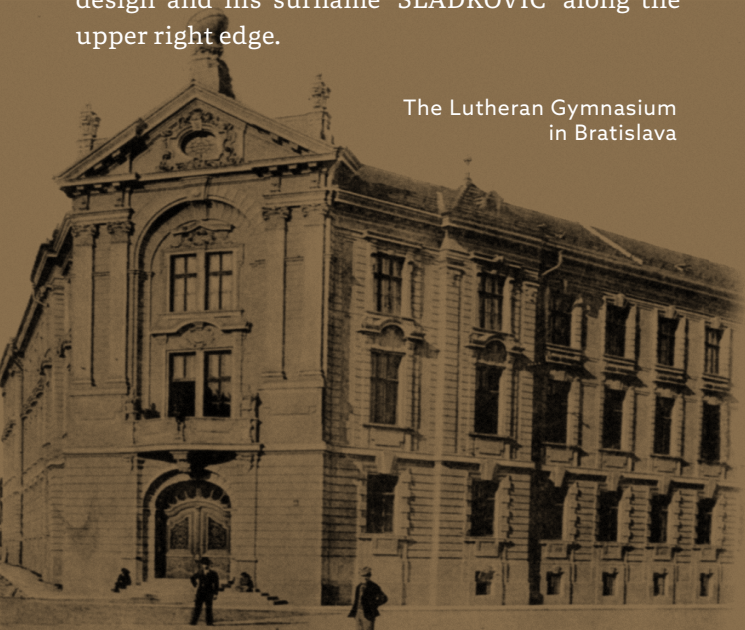
## Obverse

The coin's obverse design depicts a floral arrangement that creates a silhouetted profile of Marína, the eponymous subject of Sládkovič's most famous work. The Slovak coat of arms appears on the right side of this composition. Along the bottom edge is the name of the issuing country 'SLOVENSKO', which is followed by the year of issuance '2020'. The denomination '10' and currency 'EURO' are inscribed along the upper right edge of the design. To the lower left of the floral composition is the mint mark of the Kremnica Mint (Mincovňa Kremnica), consisting of the letters 'MK' placed between two dies. Next to the right edge are the stylised letters 'KL' referring to the designer Karol Ličko.

## Reverse

The reverse shows a portrait of Andrej Sládkovič with his facsimile signature inscribed below the face. To the right of the portrait are the years of his birth and death, one above the other. His first name 'ANDREJ' appears along the left edge of the design and his surname 'SLÁDKOVIČ' along the upper right edge.

The Lutheran Gymnasium  
in Bratislava



## Coin details

Denomination:	€10
Composition:	.900 silver / .100 copper
Weight:	18 g
Diameter:	34 mm
Edge lettering:	• KTO LÁŠKE A KRÁŠE ŽIJE, VEČNE ZOSTANE MLADÝ (Whoever lives for love and beauty will remain eternally young)
Issuing volume:	limited to a maximum of 11,000 coins in either brilliant uncirculated or proof quality
Designer:	Karol Ličko
Engraver:	Dalibor Schmidt
Producer:	Kremnica Mint (Slovakia)



Published by: Národná banka Slovenska, March 2020

© Národná banka Slovenska 2020

Original Slovak text written by Martin Braxatoris

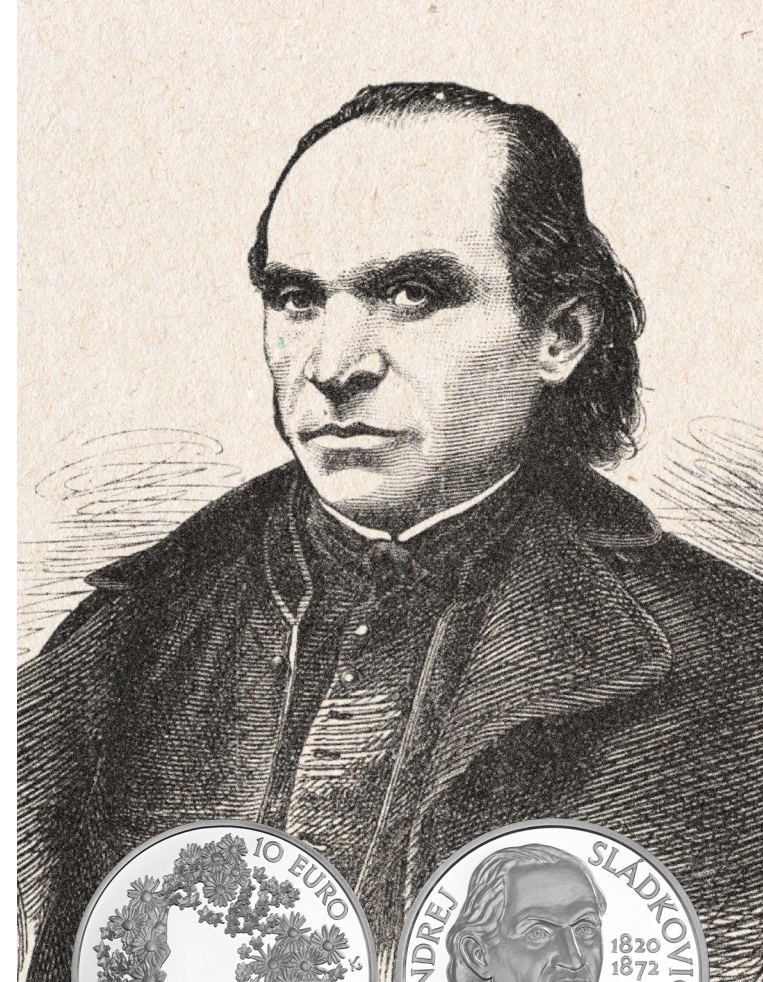
Photographs: [sk.wikipedia.org](http://sk.wikipedia.org), [www.skolske.sk](http://www.skolske.sk),

[www.banskastiavnica.sk](http://www.banskastiavnica.sk), [www.pammap.sk](http://www.pammap.sk)

[www.nbs.sk/en/banknotes-and-coins/  
euro-coins/collector-coins](http://www.nbs.sk/en/banknotes-and-coins/euro-coins/collector-coins)



[www.nbs.sk](http://www.nbs.sk)



200th anniversary of  
the birth of  
Andrej Sládkovič

SILVER COLLECTOR COIN



Andrej Sládkovič, born Andrej Braxatoris, was a major Slovak romantic poet, literary critic and translator who belonged to the 'Štúrovci', the group of intellectuals around Ľudovít Štúr. Sládkovič was born in 1820 in the town of Krupina in what is now central Slovakia. His parents were Ondrej Braxatoris, who was a teacher and writer, and his wife Terézia (née Bartolomeidesová). He attended the Lutheran Gymnasium in Ban-



The Lutheran Gymnasium in Banská Štiavnica

ská Štiavnica, where he immersed himself in works of Czech and Slovak literature and became involved with a local Slovak students' society. While doing some teaching work outside school, he met Mária Pišlová, the muse for his poem *Marína*. He was parted from her by his move to the Lutheran Gymnasium in Bratislava (then called Pressburg), where he studied from 1840 to 1842 and where he became part of the Štúr group.

It was in Bratislava, and then while studying at the University of Halle, that he wrote his first works: poems published in the almanac *Nitra*, and the philosophical, reflective poem *Sôvety v rodine Dušanovej* (*Talks in Dušan's family*). His writing was influenced by the idealistic philosophy of the time. In winter 1844 he started to write the epic poem *Marína*, dedicated to Mária Pišlová. He did not publish it for another two years, however, after Mária had been forced into marriage with another man. The poem intertwines romantic and reflective verses, with the eponymous *Marína* becoming a symbol set in a context of beauty, intimate love, patriotic feeling, and youth. Youth is presented in the poem as a spiritual state, a vigorous desire for beauty, for the fulfilment of a longing and an ideal. Although it ranks among the most significant works of Slovak literature, *Marína* initially met with some controversy from Sládkovič's circle, since it ran counter to the demand for nation-centred poetry. The general response, however, showed that the poem's aesthetic qualities were highly appreciated. Sládkovič subsequently published several patriotically tinged poems in *Orol tatránski*, a literary supplement of the *Slovak National Newspaper* (*Slovenskje národňje novini*). This publication also published extracts from his lyrical epic poem *Detvan*, which he began writing in 1845. The complete poem was not published until 1853, in the *Nitra* almanac. *Detvan* was Sládkovič's response to contemporary demand for poetry with a patriotic focus. This poem and *Marína* together constitute the pinnacle of his poetic oeuvre. In 1847 Sládkovič began working as a pastor in Hrochoť. There he met and married Antónia Júlia Sekovičová, with whom he had four children. He was an enthusiastic supporter of the 1848-49 Revolution in Hungary (encompassing what is now Slovakia), although his position caused him difficulties with the state authorities. From 1856 until his death he served

as a pastor in Radvaň nad Hronom. Sládkovič was involved in the organisation of the Slovak National Assembly in Martin (1861) and was a founding member of *Matica slovenská*, a nationwide Slovak cultural institution established in 1863. Through his organisational activity, literary criticism, and own works (especially those of a topical or patriotic nature), Andrej Sládkovič had a significant and enduring impact on Slovak cultural life. He died in 1872.



The poet's muse Mária Pišlová (*Marína*)