

## Obverse

The obverse depicts the building of the Slovak National Uprising Museum in Banská Bystrica. Below it is an outline map of the wartime Slovak Republic, showing the territory in which the uprising took place, a central point marking the location of Banská Bystrica (the heart of the uprising), and arrows indicating the direction from which German forces came to suppress the uprising. The Slovak coat of arms appears in the lower left of the design. Below the top edge, in descending order, are the year of issuance '2024', the name of the issuing country 'SLOVENSKO', and the coin's denomination and currency '10 EURO'. To the right of the museum are the mint mark of the Kremnica Mint (Mincovňa Kremnica), and the stylised initials 'ZF', referring to the coin's designer Zbyněk Fojtů.

## Reverse

At the centre of the reverse design is the emblem of the insurgent air force, with an LT vz. 38 tank shown on the right side and an image of mortar-men in combat action appearing on the left side. Depicted at the bottom of design is an insurgent biplane fighter (Avia B.534.217) and, above it, part of an insurgent armoured train. The year of the Slovak National Uprising, '1944', is inscribed at the top of design, above the uprising's name in Slovak, 'SLOVENSKÉ NÁRODNÉ POVSTANIE', divided into three lines.

Arrival of Trnava garrison troops in insurgent territory

## Coin details

Denomination:	€10
Composition:	.900 silver, .100 copper
Weight:	18 g
Diameter:	34 mm
Edge lettering:	• JÁN GOLIAN • ZAČNITE S VYSTAHOVANÍM! • 29. 8. 1944 (• Ján Golian • Start the eviction! • 29.8.1944)
Issuing volume:	limited to a maximum of 20,000 coins in either brilliant uncirculated or proof quality
Designer:	Zbyněk Fojtů
Engraver:	Jakub Morávek
Producer:	Kremnica Mint (Slovakia)



NÁRODNÁ  
BANKA  
SLOVENSKA  
EUROSYSTÉM

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Photographs from the archives of the  
Slovak National Uprising Museum

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80th anniversary of the  
Slovak National  
Uprising

SILVER COLLECTOR EURO COIN

The Slovak National Uprising (SNP) is a major event not only in Slovak history, but also in the history of European resistance against Nazism. Several resistance groups were operating in the territory of the wartime Slovak state, but there was hardly any cooperation between them until 1943, when they came together to form the underground Slovak National Council (SNC) and sign the 'Christmas Treaty'.

The SNC and the London-based Czechoslovak government-in-exile commissioned Lieutenant Colonel Ján Golian to prepare plans for an armed uprising against German forces in Slovakia. The first option was to join up with the Red Army units that were approaching the borders of the country. The second option envisaged declaring an uprising at the moment when German troops were poised to enter and occupy Slovak territory. In the summer of 1944, the Germans were seeking to turn Slovakia into a fortress against the advancing forces from the east.



Operation of the machine gun carriage of the Štefánik IPV-I improvised armoured train (photograph by Dr Ivan Székely)



Brigadier General Ján Golian (1906–1945)

Another pretext for the entry of German forces was Slovak President Jozef Tiso's request for military intervention in the country. On 29 August 1944 reports reached Banská Bystrica about the first clashes between the soldiers of the Žilina garrison and advancing German units. In the evening, on the instructions of Lt Col Jan Golian, the Slovak National Uprising was declared under the secret signal '*Start the eviction!*'. In the first days of the uprising, some military garrisons, especially in western Slovakia, were disarmed and could therefore not take part in it. Another major loss was the disarmament of two divisions in eastern Slovakia that had been intended to form the core of the insurgent army. Despite these setbacks, some 60,000 soldiers and 12,000 partisans, made up of 35 ethnicities and nationalities from all over the world, gradually joined combat operations in central Slovakia against the attacking German army. They were commanded by Golian, who was promoted to brigadier general at the beginning of September. In October, as planned, General

Rudolf Viest took over command of the rebels, but the change in the command and modification of the insurgent army's structure – from two to six tactical groups – failed to stop the German army from launching a general offensive on 18 October 1944, the aim of which was to suppress the uprising once and for all. In response, General Viest ordered his forces to switch to guerrilla warfare tactics behind enemy lines and to await the liberating troops. The Germans captured Banská Bystrica on 27 October, and the insurgents fell back to the surrounding mountains.

Together with the Warsaw Uprising and the fighting in the Balkans, the SNP ranks among the largest anti-Nazi uprisings in Europe. By this action, the Slovak nation aligned itself with the democratic legacy of Czechoslovakia and joined the victorious countries of the Second World War.



Major General Rudolf Viest (1890–1945)