The presidency also brings with it significant promotional and presentation potential. It offers opportunities to present Slovakia as a country of rich culture and traditions, as well as a modern and dynamic Member State of the EU. At the same time, it will also provide an incentive for internal discussions on European topics in Slovakia.

Coin's data

Nominal value: €10	
Material: Ag 900/1000, Cu 100/1000	
Weight: 18 g	
Diameter: 34 mm	
Edge: inscription: "1. JÚL 2016 – 31. DECEMBER 2016"	
Issuing volume: up to a maximum of 11,000 coins (comprising brilliant uncirculated quality and proof coins)	
Designer: Vladimír Pavlica	
Engraver: Filip Čerťaský	
Producer: Kremnica Mint	

The obverse side of the coin is dominated by the coat of arms of the Slovak Republic at its centre against a background of dynamic centripetal lines representing the position and importance of the Slovak Republic during its presidency of the Council of the European Union. To the right of the coat of arms of the Slovak Republic is the year "2016". Around the edge is the country name "SLOVENSKÁ REPUBLIKA" (Slovak Republic), which is separated by graphical symbols from the denomination of the coin "10 EURO". The mintmark of the Kremnica Mint, "MK", and the stylized initials of the coin's designer, Vladimír Pavlica, "VP", are placed in the lower part of the composition.

The reverse side of the coin features an impression of the Bratislava castle with waves symbolising the river Danube against a background of dynamic centripetal lines. In a circle around the edge of the coin, the inscription "PREDSEDNÍCTVO" (Presidency) is separated by graphical symbols from the inscription "SR V RADE EÚ" (of Slovakia of the Council of the EU).

First Slovak Presidency of the Council of the European Union

Silver Collector Coin

The presidency of the Council of the European Union is a significant part of the institutional framework of the European Union and for the Member States it is one of the most important and most demanding tasks resulting from EU membership.

The rotating presidency is held by groups of three Member States, which are determined in advance and known as presidency trios, over an 18-month period. The groups are formed with regard to their diversity and geographic balance within the EU. The list of rotating presidencies was determined by the Council of the European Union in December 2004.

Slovakia will hold the presidency of the Council of the European Union from 1 July 2016 to 31 December 2016 as part of a presidency trio whose other members are the Netherlands and Malta. This will be the first time that Slovakia has held the presidency, which means a significant political challenge for the country.

Slovakia's primary tasks within the Council of the EU include brokering compromises among the Member States with regard to European policies and representing them in relations with other European institutions. Its main activities during the presidency will be chairing meetings of the preparatory bodies of the Council – working groups and committees – as well as various formations of the Council of the EU, and negotiating on new European legislation and current political issues. During the six months' presidency, Bratislava and its environs will be the venue for around twenty informal meetings of ministers and ministerial conferences as well as of almost two hundred events organised on the expert and working party levels.

One of the key topics of the Slovak presidency is the migrant crisis, which is a problem of concern throughout Europe. Other important points of the Slovak presidency include the possible exit of the UK from the EU and Member States' attitudes towards the crises in Syria and Ukraine. The presidency also enables the Member State holding it to focus the European Union on issues and topics of particular national or regional interest and the way that they are addressed through the EU's policies and orientation.