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ITU's 150th Anniversary:
report on the activities in 2015

15 February 2016

A year long celebration

- Theme: **ICTs: Drivers of Innovation**

- The celebrations of ITU150 aimed at
  – Bringing visibility to ITU's mission and strategic goals;
  – Celebrating ITU's contribution to build a connected society;
 – Looking into the future challenges of the ICT sector.

ITU150 Campaign and its deliverables

- A clear visual identity
- Dedicated website
- Historical timeline
- ITU 150th Anniversary smartphone application
- Commemorative Book
- A special issue of ITU News
- Videos
- ITU150 poster competition
- Golden Book
- ITU 150 video greetings
- Social Media and its community
- Inter-agency games

Logo, visual guidelines & toolkit

Dedicated website

www.itu150.org
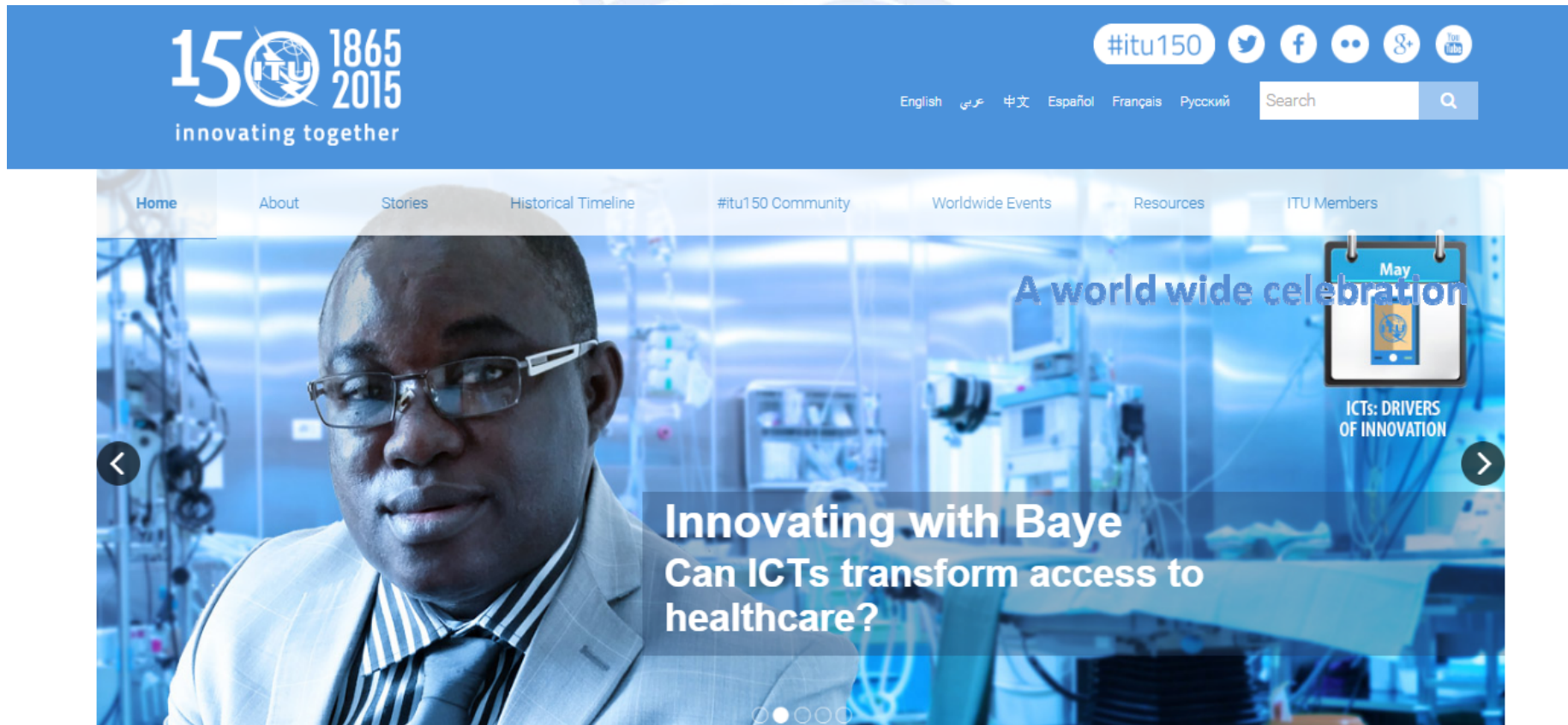
2015: ITU 150th Anniversary

Calendar of monthly themes

January — ICTs Drivers of Innovation

February — Youth & Innovation

March — Innovation & Intelligent Transport Systems

April — Girls & Women & Innovation

May — ICTs Drivers of Innovation

June — Digital Switchover & Innovation

July — Accessibility & Innovation

August — Bridging the Digital Divide

September — Navigation & Innovation

October — Big Data & Innovation
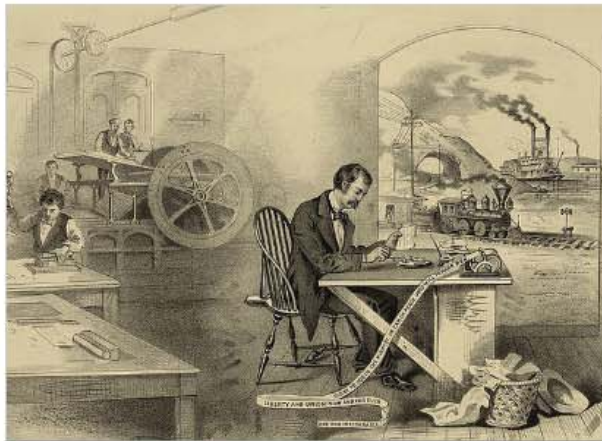
November — WRC as Enabler of Innovation

December — ITU – Driver of Future Innovation

150 ITU 1865 2015

ITU

1865
2015

150

innovating together

Home   About ITU 150   Stories   **Historical Timeline**   #itu150 Community   Worldwide Events   Resources   ITU Members

ITU Historical Timeline

Telegraph operator (Source: Library of Congress)
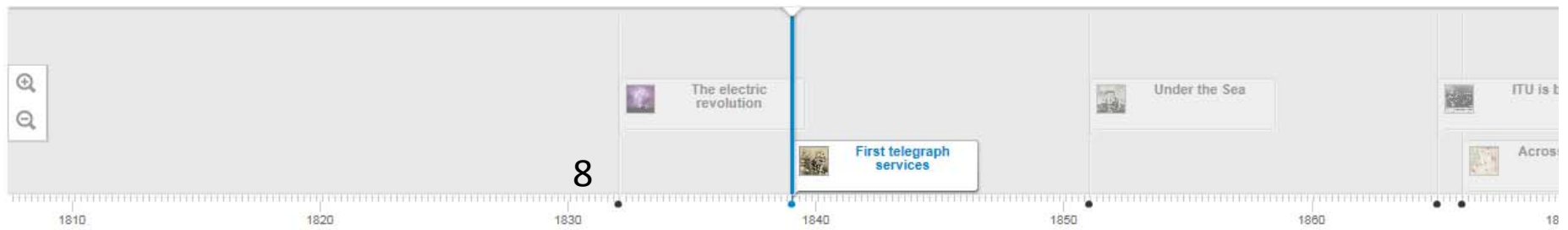
❮

1832
The electric
revolution

1839
First telegraph services

The development of electrical telegraphy meant that – for the first time in history – ordinary people could send complex messages across countries, with previously unimagined speed. The world's first commercial service was opened in London in 1839 by British scientist Charles Wheatstone, in partnership with businessman William Fothergill Cooke. Inventors in other countries had also been working on ways to convey messages by wire. Samuel Morse, in the United States, opened a telegraph service in 1844.
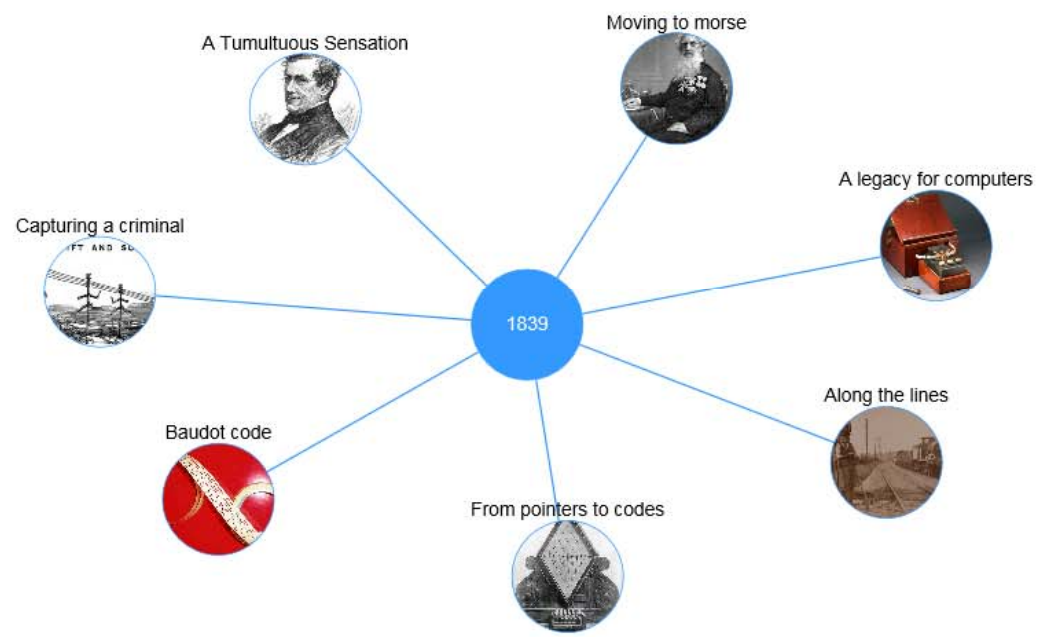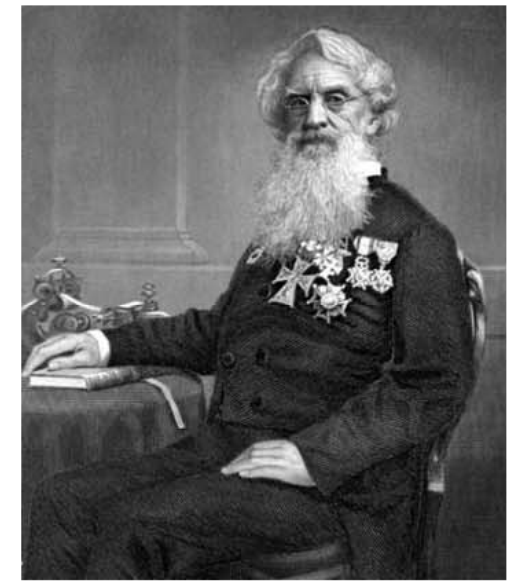
See More

❯

1851
Under the
Sea

The electric
revolution

Under the Sea

ITU is b

First telegraph
services

Acros

8

1810   1820   1830   1840   1850   1860   18

< Back to timeline   First telegraph services

A Tumultuous Sensation

Moving to morse

A legacy for computers

Capturing a criminal

1839

Along the lines

Baudot code

From pointers to codes

Click on sub-events to see information on right window.

Samuel Morse and a prototype of his invention (Source: Wikimedia Commons)

MOVING TO MORSE

In the United States, Samuel Morse and Alfred Vail had worked on electric telegraphy since the mid-1830s. Their system that opened in 1844 marked a paper tape to show when an electric current was transmitted. The *'Morse code,'* patented in 1840, allowed the paper marks (and later sounds) to be translated into text.

Morse code originally had four lengths of signal to denote letters; this was revised to just *dit* or *dah* by German inventor Friedrich Clemens Gerke in 1848. With minor modifications, this was the code recommended as a standard in ITU's founding International Telegraph Conference in 1865.

Historical video

ITU 150 Historical Video

ITU ☑

▶ Subscribe

2,725

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Commemorative Book on the creation of ITU in 1865

18

THE INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH CONFERENCE (PARIS, 1865)

Louis Napoléon Bonaparte, the future Emperor Napoléon III, was open to new technologies and in favour of the modernization of France and its industry. He opened the French telegraph to private and commercial use. He believed that a modern economy needed speedy communications which should cross borders without interruption.

In 1864, the French Imperial Government sent out invitations to all European countries[3] – not only the signatory States to previous telegraph conventions – to attend a conference in Paris starting on 1 March 1865 to negotiate a general treaty which would create a uniform international telegraph system.

Twenty countries[4] confirmed their participation, setting the stage for a historic event that would leave an indelible stamp on the communications sector and its place in society worldwide.

Louis Napoléon, the future Napoléon III.

19

Georges-Eugène Haussman (1809–1891), Prefect of the Seine Department, town planner for the Paris of Napoléon III.

'MODERN' PARIS IN 1865

The delegates converging on Paris in the spring of 1865 must have noticed the fundamental changes of the French capital. Soon after he came to power Napoléon III launched a massive programme to renovate the city. Tens of thousands of workers were hired to improve the sanitation, water supply and traffic circulation of the city. To direct this task, Napoléon III appointed Georges Eugène Haussmann as the new Prefect of the Seine department and gave him extraordinary powers to rebuild the city centre. He installed a large map of Paris in a central position in his office, and together with Haussmann, planned the 'new' Paris. Haussmann was instructed to "aérer, unifier, et embellir" Paris: to give it air and open space,

to connect and unify the different parts of the city into one whole, and to make it more beautiful.

In the middle of the nineteenth century, the centre of Paris was overcrowded, dark, dangerous, and unhealthy. The population density in some neighbourhoods was extremely high. In these conditions, disease spread very quickly. Cholera epidemics ravaged the city in 1832 and 1848. Traffic circulation was another major problem. Wagons, carriages and carts could barely move through the streets. Under Napoleon III, two new train stations were built: the Gare de Lyon (1855) and the Gare du Nord (1865). He completed Les Halles, the great cast iron and glass pavilion

produce market in the center of the city.

Haussmann used the 250 million franc loan he received for the reconstruction of Paris to build the city's network of boulevards, a new water supply structure, and a gigantic sewerage system, where the wires of the early telegraph lines were laid.

He worked with a highly efficient team to "embellish, enlarge and sanitize Paris": Baltard et Davioud (architecture) Eugène Deschamps, (Paris planning director), Eugène Belgrand (water and sewage) and Jean-Charles Adolphe Alphand (gardens, parks and promenades).

The most famous and recognizable features of Haussmann's renovation work

are the blocks of apartment buildings which line the boulevards of Paris designed as homogeneous architectural wholes. He treated buildings not as independent structures, but as component parts of a unified urban landscape.

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Special issue of ITU News

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ITU 150th Anniversary smartphone Application

The ITU 150th Anniversary smartphone App includes an interactive quiz on the history, development and structure of ITU and also includes access to ITU's historic timeline, monthly feature stories, ITU150 news, international events and connection to the worldwide #ITU150 community.
The 'ITU 150th Anniversary App'
is **available on Apple App Store and Google Play**.

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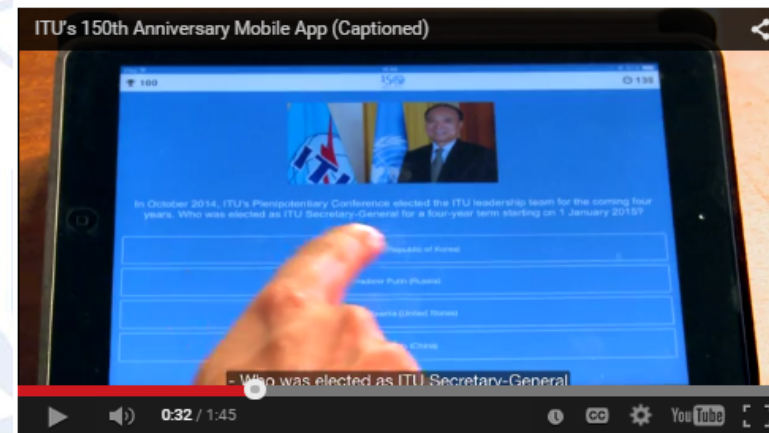
ITU150 Poster Competition
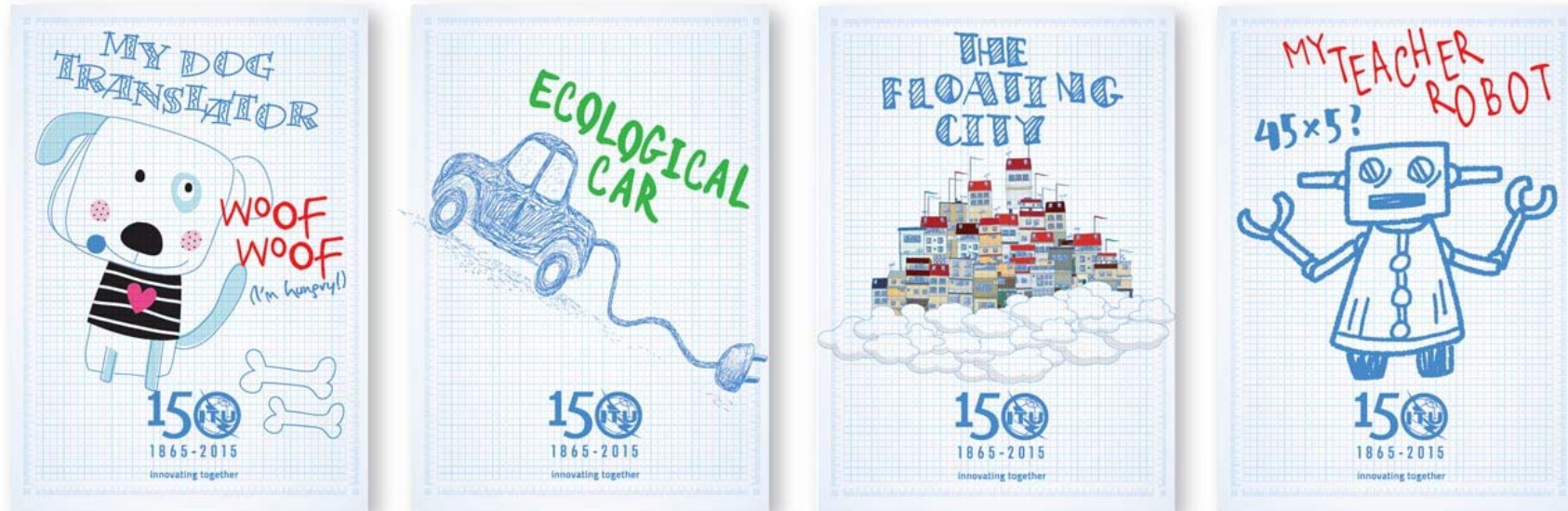
More than 1000 submissions were received from all over the world!

Social Media #ITU150

ITU150 Golden Book

150-branded souvenirs

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ITU150 Partners. Thank you.

Gold Partners

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND HIGH TECHNOLOGIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN
The Republic of Azerbaijan

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

TRA
TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY
United Arab Emirates

Silver Partners

RÉPUBLIQUE DE CÔTE D'IVOIRE
Côte d'Ivoire (Republic of)

Republic of Ghana

ZIMBABWE
Republic of Zimbabwe

Bronze Partners

ART
RÉPUBLIQUE CENTRAFRICAINE

НРТБ

HUAWEI

inmarsat

NTT Group

ROHDE&SCHWARZ

Rostelecom

Other contributions

Switzerland, Japan, CISCO, Caption First

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ITU

UN Inter-Agency Games

Winners:
Basketball: Gold
Swimming (Women): Gold
Chess: Bronze

ITU's 150th Anniversary
17 May 2015

ITU's 150th Anniversary
17 May 2015

ITU's 150th Anniversary
17 May 2015- programme

- Venue: CICG

- + 900 participants

- **ITU150 Awards Ceremony**

- Discussion Panel "**ICTs Driving a Sustainable Future**"

- **Recognition Ceremony for Founding & Long-Standing Industry Members**

- **Overview of Global Celebrations**

ITU's 150th Anniversary
17 May 2015

- High-Level Guests (120)
- +25 Ministers, Deputy Ministers, DGs of Authorities
- +45 Ambassadors
- CEOs/ Executive level of long-standing Industry Members
- Heads of IO & UN Agencies
- Special Guests
- Council Delegates
- ITU Staff

ITU 150 Awards

Founding Members

Dialogue with Industry
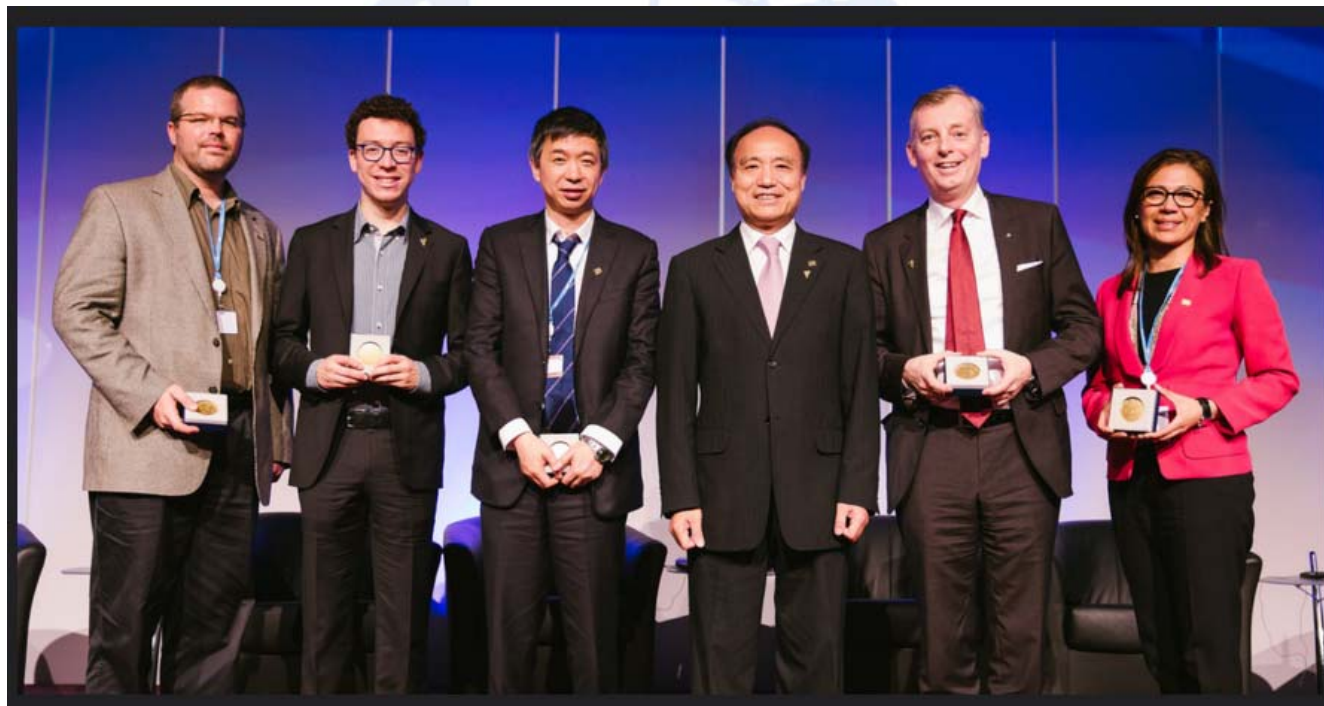
A world-wide celebration
Contributions by ITU's Members

http://itu150.org/worldwide-events/

More than 140 celebrations around the world throughout the year

STAMPS

ITU 150th Anniversary stamps

2015 GEORGIA

150 ITU
1865 - 2015

THAILAND

3 BAHT
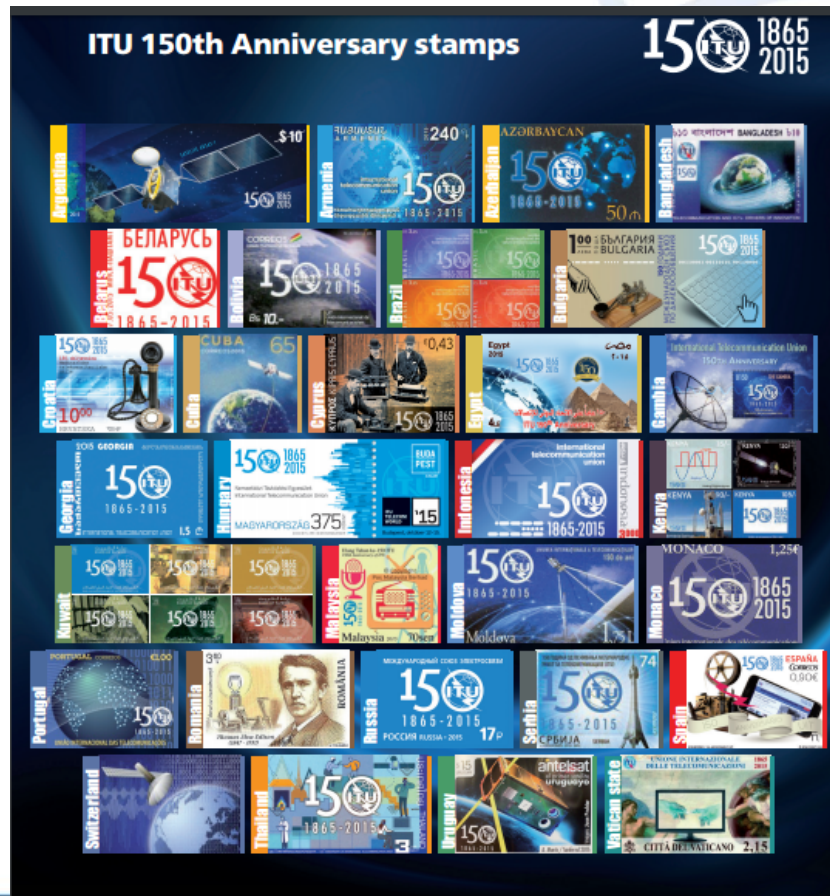
More than 30 Member States expressed their interest to produce commemorative stamps
http://itu150.org/stamps/

ITU 150 Celebrations

SOME EXAMPLES

The complete list is available at

ITU150.org

ITU150 Celebration in the United States of America

26 February 2015: The United States ITU Association (USITUA) Celebration in Recognition of the ITU's 150th Anniversary in the United States of America

ITU150 Celebration in Spain

5 May 2015: Commemorative event in Spain emphasizing the importance of the 1932 Plenipotentiary Conference in Madrid

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ITU150 Celebration in Spain

ITU150 Celebration in France
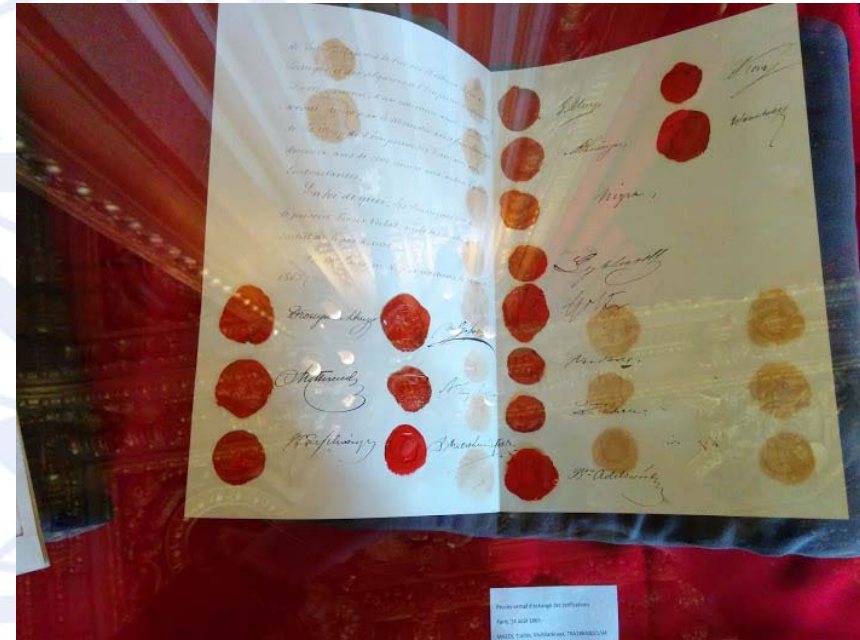
27 April 2015: Celebration of the foundation of ITU in Paris, France

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ITU150 Celebration in Russia

8 May 2015: Celebrations to mark the Union's 150th anniversary in Russia

ITU150 Celebration in China

15 May 2015: Celebration of WTISD 2015 and
ITU's 150th anniversary in China

Special publications, articles, brochures

- Colegio Oficial Ingenieros Telecomunicación (Spain) published a special edition of the BIT Journal dedicated to ITU's 150th Anniversary (July 2015)
- The Ukrainian State Service of Special Communications and Information Protection (Ukraine) published articles dedicated to the 150th anniversary of ITU in Ukrainian scientific and technical editions
- Fundação Portuguesa das Comunicações (Portugal) published a report "The Submarine Cable in a Sea of Connectivity" dedicated to ITU's 150th Anniversary. This report highlighted the importance of the submarine cable in electromagnetic communication over the past 150 years (http://itu150.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Sub-Cable-a-Seaa-of-Conn_150-ITU.pdf)
- The Office of Electronic Communications (Poland) published articles about the ITU 150th anniversary

1865 2015

Workshops/seminars

- The National Institute of Telecommunications and ICT of Oran (Algeria) organized an International conference on Telecommunications and ICT

- The Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (Indonesia) conducted a regional workshop on accelerating broadband access for regulators, academics, and technical experts in the Asia-Pacific Region in conjunction with ITU 150 Years Commemoration

- The National Telecom Regulatory Authority (Egypt) hosted the Arab Regional cyber Drill-Applied Learning for Emergency Response Teams (ALERT) from 17 to 21 May 2015. As part of this event, the National Telecom Regulatory Authority organized a capacity building workshop on Critical National Infrastructure Protection with included an information session on ITU's 150th Anniversary

- The Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works (Department of Electronic Communications) (Cyprus) organized a conference "Challenges for Cyprus: Digital Single Market and ICT Innovation"

Competitions/contests

- Asociación de Usuarios de Internet (Spain) organized a mobile phone photo competition
- ARTCI ICT (Côte d'Ivoire) organized Young Talents Competition
- The ITU Americas Regional Office (Brazil), in close collaboration with SAMSUNG, launched the Applications for Accessibility Award
- The Ministry of Transport, Information Technology and Communications (Bulgaria) organized a competition for children's drawings "The Technology that Links Me with the World"
- The Ministry of Communication and ICT (Benin) organized several competitions: 1) The best innovative ICT application developers, 2) The best paper on ICTs in Benin 3) Championship between universities on ICT

Special Exhibitions for ITU150 event

- "Be part of history"(Argentina)

- "ITU history - Togo history" (Togo)

- "The Submarine Cable in a sea of connectivity" (Portugal)

- "Exhibition about history of ICTs" (Côte d'Ivoire)

Other activities

- The Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (Lebanon) launched an online campaign which highlighted ITU's history and its contribution to the development of the ICT sector worldwide, as well as a website that was dedicated to ITU and that recaps its activities and major milestones (http://www.tra.gov.lb/)

- The Commonwealth Peoples Association-Uganda (CPAUG) launched the Digital Impact Awards Africa (Uganda), a research driven project with conference and award events. The events were presented by HiPipo in partnership with Cyberplc and Global Networks Limited; the purpose was to promote innovations and best practices that will deliver maximum digital dividends. The project covered products, services and platforms including web, mobile, social and financial services that will fuel further uptake of Internet, telecommunications and computer networks (https://www.digital-impact-awards.com/)

Campaign in Argentina

www.itu150.org

Thanks!

For more information

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