

3.5 LETTERS WITH DECLARED VALUE (*ÉRTÉKLEVEL*) – FOREIGN RATES

3.5.1 Introduction

This type of letter initially was sent via the *Fahrpost* (coach mail), not the *Briefpost* (letter carrier), in order to provide more security, but eventually by rail and ship. Arrangements with neighbouring countries were formulated piecemeal, and the insurance rates, maximum values and weight limits varied widely. In addition, the service may only have applied to certain types of valuable item. Coins or banknotes were often excluded. The insurance rates for letters were often different from those for parcels or ‘value boxes’ (*értékdoboz* – small valuable parcels, usually less than 1 kg). The number of countries to which such mail could be sent varied with time, as did the route the mail took through intermediate countries. Even well after the formulation of UPU rules in 1874, more services became available but they were not universal in applicability. An additional factor was the sea-post charge, and some routes required additional insurance for transit by boat outside the borders of the Empire, where mail was entrusted to parties other than the Austro-Hungarian post or a foreign postal administration.

Such mail often needed to be addressed to the head post office of the foreign territory, or later, to post offices in a number of named cities. It would then be the responsibility of local post office to inform the recipient to collect and sign for the item.

In addition, the published data found in the PTRT series of announcements (mostly headed: *Változások a 'Postai Tarifák'-ban*) were often in the form of changes to existing rules given in other documents, probably postal guides for post office counter staff. It appears that staff were expected to make the changes manually in their own copies. To the modern-day researcher, not having a ready-made table, nor the detail of the entry prior to the changes, this becomes a real problem. These factors together make it very difficult to present a uniform picture for a continuously evolving set of possible destinations, rules and insurance rates.

Note also that in the majority of cases, insurance rates and maximum value limits are cited in gold *francs*, with the equivalents in Hungarian *forint/kráczjar* (later in *korona/fillér* after the 1900 currency change) sometimes given.

3.5.2 Insurance rate tables

The following tables show some of the findings on researching the subject up to 1916.

Table 1: Postal agreement between Austria-Hungary and Germany, 07.05.1872

Distance	Insurance rates for different values		
	Up to 50 <i>thaler</i> or 87.5 <i>Fl</i> (southern), or 75 <i>Fl</i> (Austrian)	Over 50 to 100 <i>thaler</i> , or over 87.5 to 175 <i>Fl</i> (southern), or over 150 <i>Fl</i> (Austrian)	For greater sums: for each 100 <i>thaler</i> , or each 175 <i>Fl</i> (southern) or each 150 <i>Fl</i> (Austrian)
Up to 15 <i>Meilen</i>	½ <i>sgr</i> or 3 <i>Nkr</i>	1 <i>sgr</i> or 5 <i>Nkr</i>	1 <i>sgr</i> or 5 <i>Nkr</i>
15-50 <i>Meilen</i>	1 <i>sgr</i> or 5 <i>Nkr</i>	2 <i>sgr</i> or 10 <i>Nkr</i>	2 <i>sgr</i> or 10 <i>Nkr</i>
More than 50 <i>Meilen</i>	2 <i>sgr</i> or 10 <i>Nkr</i>	3 <i>sgr</i> or 15 <i>Nkr</i>	3 <i>sgr</i> or 15 <i>Nkr</i>

Source: PTRT 10, 03.03.1873, introduced 09.12.1872.

Maximum weight 250 g. With inspection and sealing. For values higher than 1,000 *thaler* or 1750 *Fl* (southern) or 1500 *Fl* (Austrian) the rates in the last column are halved.

From 01.11.1878, rates to Germany were equal to the domestic rate.

Table 2: Chronological data concerning other countries up to 1899

Countries	Rate	Maximum	PTRT
Great Britain to London to other places Additional sea-post surcharge for >600 Ft	30-600 Ft: 50 kr per 150 Ft >600 Ft: 25 kr per 150 Ft 30-600 Ft: 1 Ft per 150 Ft >600 Ft: 1 Ft per 150 Ft 50 kr per 150 Ft	Not stated	PTRT 26, 17.07.1875
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	50 cent. per 1000 francs	Not stated	PTRT 9, 26.03.1876
Italy via Görz (Slovenia)	Charges depend on Italian city – see table in PRT	10,000 lire / 4,000 Ft	PTRT 3, 09.02.1878
Luxemburg	10 kr per 200 Ft	4,000 Ft	PTRT 13, 17.05.1878
Belgium	12 kr per 300 Ft	-	PTRT 29, 28.10.1878
Spain	10 kr per 200 francs	5,000 francs	PTRT 30, 27.09.1881
New Caledonia via France	15 kr per 200 francs	10,000 francs	PTRT 42, 26.11.1882
Tunisia	8 kr per 200 francs	-	PTRT 12, 13.03.1883
Bulgaria	8 kr per 200 francs	10,000 francs	PTRT 46, 08.10.1883
Tokin (Cochin China)	-	Raised to 10,000 francs	PTRT 18, 02.04.1884
Turkey (via Romania): Constantinople, Salonica, Smyrna and Beirut Other places	10 kr per 200 francs, but 15 kr per 200 francs 15 kr per 200 francs	-	PTRT 43, 12.09.1884 PTRT 53, 25.10.1884 PTRT 43, 12.09.1884
Switzerland	5 kr per 200 francs (previously 8 kr)	-	PTRT 28, 07.06.1884
Salvador	15 kr per 200 francs	10,000 francs	PTRT 8, 29.02, 1888
Tunisia	15 kr per 200 francs (previously 8 kr)	-	PTRT 35, 13.07.1883
Obock, Mayotte, Nossi-Bé, Diego-Suarez, Ste Marié de Madagascar and Tamatave (Madagascar), via France	25 kr per 200 francs	10,000 francs	PTRT 34, 07.06.1889
Egypt	-	Unlimited (previously 10,000 franc)	PTRT 51, 19.09.1889
Gabon, via France	15 kr per 200 francs	10,000 francs	PTRT 62, 17.11.1889
Shanghai (via Brindisi and German steamship)	13 kr per 200 Ft	10,000 francs	PTRT 6, 30.01.1890
Argentina via France	15 kr per 200 francs	10,000 francs	PTRT 10, 24.02.1890
Tunisia via Italy (previously via France)	13 kr per 200 francs	-	PTRT 21, 10.04.1890
Cameroon via Hamburg	13 kr per 200 francs	-	PTRT 34, 20.06.1890
Tunisia New Caledonia	Same as France Same as French colonies	-	PTRT 32, 20.06.1890
‘Most European countries (except Great Britain, Germany, Romania) and to several overseas locations (Egypt, Algeria, Tunis, etc.)’, Bulgaria, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Denmark	7.5 kr per 200 francs	10,000 francs, some places more	PTRT 75, 31.12.1891

Countries	Rate	Maximum	PTRT
Turkey (Egyptian and Russian Levant post offices), Egypt, Spain and Sweden Norway, Portugal and Tunis:	10 <i>kr</i> per 200 <i>francs</i> 12.5 <i>kr</i> per 200 <i>francs</i>		
Eritrea (Assab and Massanah only)	18 <i>kr</i> per 200 <i>francs</i>	10,000 <i>Ft</i>	PTRT 24, 30.04.1892
Serbia, Romania, Italy, Russia, Switzerland Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark (including the Faroe Islands), France and Algeria, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Spain (including the Balearic and Canary Islands), the Italian post offices of Tunis, Goletta and Susa Tunisian Governorate to all Tunisian post offices, Argentina, Danish colonies (Greenland, West Indies), Eritrea (Italian colony), French colonies, Cameroon territory (German post office), Liberia, Norway, Portuguese colonies, Salvador, Shanghai (German post office) and Sweden Egypt and its post offices based in Turkey (including the insurance premium against maritime perils)	5 <i>kr</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 13 <i>kr</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 18 <i>kr</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 25 <i>kr</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	10,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 35, 20.06.1892
Danish Antilles		10,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 47, 30.07.1892
Chile	18 <i>kr</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	10,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 58, 19.10.1894
Austrian post offices based in Turkey (a) via Varna (b) via Trieste	18 <i>kr</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 25 <i>kr</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	-	PTRT 61, 23.11.1895
Turkey via Romanian Post Office in (a) Constantinople (b) other offices Removal of sea-post surcharge if sent via Constanza, but still liable to internal Hungarian charges	33 <i>kr</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 48 <i>kr</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	-	PTRT 2, 26.01.1898 PTRT 7, 26.02.1898
Great Britain (onward postage via Austria 8 <i>Ft</i> , via Germany 16 <i>Ft</i>)	13 <i>kr</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	3,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 40, 22.12.1898
British India	10 <i>kr</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>		PTRT 18, 20.05.1899
Ceylon via Italy	10 <i>kr</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	3,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 22, 15.06.1899
German post offices in Kiatschou (Tsingtau) and Tietsin	18 <i>kr</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	10,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 28, 31.07.1899
British colonies of British Guiana, Falkland Is., Gambia, Hong Kong, Jamaica, Lagos, St Helena, Trinidad & Tobago	18 <i>kr</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	3,000 <i>francs</i> (1,200 <i>Ft</i>) except Falkland Is., 1,500 <i>francs</i> (600 <i>Ft</i>)	PTRT 38, 19.10.1899
Newfoundland	18 <i>kr</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	3,000 <i>francs</i> (1200 <i>Ft</i>)	PTRT 41, 02.11.1899

Generally, up to 31.12.1899 100 *francs* = 60 *Ft*

From 01.01.1901, 100 *francs* = 96 *Korona*

Table 3: Chronological data concerning other countries 1900-1907

Countries	Rate (previous values in (..))	Maximum	PTRT
Leeward Islands, (stopped in PTRT 14, 22.02.1900)	35 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	3,000 <i>francs</i> (2,880 <i>K</i>)	PTRT 10, 01.02.1900
Straits Settlements	35 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	1,250 <i>francs</i>	
Norway, Sweden (via Denmark or Germany)	25 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	-	PTRT 31, 23.05.1900
German POs in Hankau (Hankow), Peking, Tientsin and Tongku added to Shanghai	-	-	PTRT 7, 26.01.1901
German East Africa	25 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	10,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 20, 04.04.1901
Turkish PO in San Giovanni di Medua (Albania)	As per Turkey	-	PTRT 31, 01.06.1901
Italian PO in Benghasi	As per Tripolis	-	PTRT 29, 18.07.1901
French POs in Casablanca, Mazagan and Mogador	As per Tangier	-	PTRT 45, 26.08.1901
Malta	25 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	3,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 49, 19.09.1901
German PO in Kaumi (China)	As per Tientsin	-	PTRT 50, 25.09.1901
German POs in Casablanca, Mazagan, Mogador, Saffi and Tangier	35 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	10,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 54, 17.10.1901
British POs in Shanghai, Amoy, Canton, Foochow, Hoihow, Ningpo and Swatow in China (via Russia?)	35 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> (Shanghai), 45 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> (others)	3,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 61, 27.11.1901
German POs in Schanhaikwan and Tschinkiang (China)	As per Tientsin	-	PTRT 64, 12.12.1901
Turkey – all mail to go via Trieste, not Romania	-	-	PTRT 24, 12.07.1902
Turkey – Romania route resumed	-	-	PTRT 25, 17.07.1902
German PO in Weihsien (China)	As per Tientsin	-	PTRT 26, 29.07.1902
Turkish PO in Skutari (Albania)	As per Turkey	-	PTRT 29, 21.08.1902
British PO in Liu-Kung Tau (China) Austrian POs in Gallipoli and Ineboli, Turkey	-	-	PTRT 34, 14.10.1902
French Congo, Cap Lopez	As per French Colonies	-	PTRT 44, 22.12.1902
Japan via Italy via Egypt	35 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 45 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	10,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 4, 26.01.1903
Montenegro	10 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>korona</i>	10,000 <i>korona</i>	PTRT 6, 01.02.1903
Romania (new postal accord)	-	Unlimited notes or coins packed as a letter	PTRT 13, 26.03.1903
British PO in Cheefoo German PO in Nanking	As per Hong Kong As per Shanghai	-	PTRT 15, 08.04.1903
German PO in Itschangban (China)	As per Shanghai	-	PTRT 35, 11.09.1903
Gold Coast Seychelles Mauritius, Sierra Leone, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent	35 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	1,250 <i>francs</i> 3,000 <i>francs</i> 1,500 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 37, 26.09.1903
German PO in Tschingschoufu (China)	As per Tongku	-	PTRT 41, 29.10.1903
British Honduras, Cyprus	35 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	3,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 48, 17.12.1903
Southern Nigeria	35 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	3,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 48, 17.12.1903

Countries	Rate (previous values in (..))	Maximum	PTRT
German PO in Tschoutsun, China Southern Nigeria (reduced limit)	As per Shanghai 35 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	1,500 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 15, 01.04.1904
British Honduras (via USA) Cyprus via Italy or Egypt Portuguese East Indies Macao, Timor)	50 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 45 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 60 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 70 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	3,000 <i>francs</i> 3,000 <i>francs</i> 10,000 <i>francs</i> 10,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 17, 16.04.1904
German POs in Swatau and Tsinaufu Senegal (various towns)	As per Shanghai As per French colonies	-	PTRT 29, 21.07.1904
French PO in Zanzibar	As per French colonies	-	PTRT 42, 08.11.1904
Barbados, Bermuda	35 <i>f</i> per 3000 <i>francs</i>	3,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 6, 11.02.1905
Netherlands East Indies	35 <i>f</i> per 3000 <i>francs</i>	10,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 16, 04.05.1905
Bermuda Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent Austrian POs in Mersina and Tripolis Annam (increase from 35 <i>f</i>) Ascension Island (decrease from 40 <i>f</i>) Bahamas (increase from 35 <i>f</i>) British East Africa (decrease from 40 <i>f</i>) British Central Africa increase from 35 <i>f</i>) Ceylon (increase from 35 <i>f</i>) China, German POs, route 2 China, British POs, Group 1 route 1 China, British POs, Group 2 route 2 Cochin China Greece, Lloyd's Agencies Norway Pondichery (India) Senegal Seychelles Italian PO in Tripolis New Zealand	50 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> As Austria Levant POs 45 <i>f</i> (35 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 35 <i>f</i> (45 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 45 <i>f</i> (35 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 35 <i>f</i> (40 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 45 <i>f</i> (35 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 45 <i>f</i> (35 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 45 <i>f</i> (35 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 45 <i>f</i> (35 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 45 <i>f</i> (35 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 45 <i>f</i> (35 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 45 <i>f</i> (35 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 45 <i>f</i> (35 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 45 <i>f</i> (35 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 15 <i>f</i> (20 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 25 <i>f</i> (35 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 45 <i>f</i> (35 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 35 <i>f</i> (25 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 45 <i>f</i> (35 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 35 <i>f</i> (25 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i> 55 <i>f</i> (45 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i>	3,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 18, 26.05.1905
Turkish POs in Mytilene and Smyrna via Romania	35 <i>f</i> (45 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i>	-	PTRT 26, 31.07.1905
Macao, Timor via Bordeaux Macao via Spain	45 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 40 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	-	PTRT 34, 05.10.1905
Korea (via Japanese Post)	As per Japan	-	PTRT 6, 01.02.1906
German POs Tschingtschioufu and Tschoutsun suspended	-	-	PTRT 14, 29.03.1906
British PO in Tientsin Japanese PO in Togku	As other British POs As Japan	-	PTRT 51, 06.12.1906
Japanese POs in Sahkalin (Russia) and Manchuria Labuan	As Japan As Straits Settlements	- -	PTRT 27, 10.06.1907

In 1907, as a result of the Rome UPU Congress, a general insurance fee for both value letters and value boxes of 5 *centimes* per 300 *francs* or part thereof for each country through which the item passes was introduced on 01.10.1907. In addition, UPU countries 'undertake not to exercise, in their mutual relations with the administrations belonging to the Universal Postal Union, the following rights reserved in international conventions: a) not to limit the maximum value that may be declared for value letters and value boxes to 10,000 *francs*'. (**PTRT 37, 15.08.1907**)

Table 4: Data concerning various countries - 1907 (PTRT 42, 20.09.1907)

Country	Insurance rate, <i>filler</i> , per 300 <i>francs</i>	Other conditions
Argentina	25 <i>f</i>	
Belgium	15 <i>f</i>	
British Colonies: Malta	25 <i>f</i>	
Mauritius	30 <i>f</i>	
Seychelles	30 <i>f</i>	
Ceylon	25 <i>f</i>	
Straits Settlements	25 <i>f</i>	
Labuan	25 <i>f</i>	
Hong Kong	25 <i>f</i>	
Cyprus	35 <i>f</i>	
British East Indies	25 <i>f</i>	
Bulgaria	15 <i>f</i>	
Denmark (incl. Faroe Is, Iceland, Greenland)	15 <i>f</i>	
Danish Colonies	25 <i>f</i>	
Italian Eritrea	25 <i>f</i>	
France (incl. Monaco, Algeria)	15 <i>f</i>	
French colonies	30 <i>f</i>	
Japan (incl. Formosa, Korea, and POs in Sahkalin, Manchuria)	25 <i>f</i>	
Cameroon	25 <i>f</i>	
Kiatschou	25 <i>f</i>	
Luxemburg	15 <i>f</i>	
Morocco	German POs French POs	
Great Britain & Ireland	20 <i>f</i>	
Germany	15 <i>f</i>	
German East Indies	25 <i>f</i>	
Portugal (incl. Madeira and Azores)	25 <i>f</i>	
Spain	20 <i>f</i>	
Sweden	via Denmark via Sassnitz, Germany	Increased to 20 <i>f</i> by PTRT 31, 24.06.1908
Togo	25 <i>f</i>	
Austrian POs in Turkey	via Trieste via Romania	To Constantinople, Adrianople, Meteline and Smyrna To other places
	20 <i>f</i>	
	25 <i>f</i>	
	35 <i>f</i>	
Tripolis	20 <i>f</i>	
Tunisia	25 <i>f</i>	

Notes:

- [1] The following are not subject to change: to the British colonies not mentioned in the preceding paragraph, to China, Egypt, Montenegro, German West Africa, Norway, Italy, Russia, the Portuguese colonies, Romania and Switzerland.
- [2] A value letter to Serbia may henceforth be posted with an unlimited declaration of value.
- [3] Value letters to Great Britain and Ireland, as well as to Gambia, Mauritius, Sierra Leone, British Guiana and the British West Indies with a declared value of up to 10,000 *francs* may be sent.
- [4] In **PTRT 28, 04.05.1908**, British colonies of Barbados, Bermuda, British Honduras, Malta and Newfoundland can now be sent with a declaration of value of 10,000 *francs*, and those to the Gold Coast with a declaration of 1,500 *francs*; on the other hand, letters of credit to the Falkland Islands, where the limit of the declaration of value was previously 3,000 *francs*, can now only be sent with a declaration of value of up to 1,250 *francs*. The maximum value to Malta is now 10,000 *francs*.

Table 5: Chronological data concerning other countries - 1908-1915

Countries	Rate (previous values in (..))	Maximum	PTRT
Malay States (Negri Sembilan, Pahang, Perak, Selangor) via Italy British Somaliland via Egypt	30 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 50 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	1,500 <i>francs</i> 3,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 52, 19.11.1908
Caroline, Mariana, Marshall and Palau Islands Netherlands Guiana (Surinam) Southern Nigeria Cayman Islands (withdrawn by PTRT 60, 16.12.1909)	40 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 90 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 50 <i>f</i> (35 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i>	- - 3,000 (1,500) <i>francs</i> -	PTRT 43, 19.08.1909
St Vincent German New Guinea Russia Russian POs in China	As per Caroline Is.	10,000 <i>francs</i> - 120,000 <i>francs</i> 10,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 60, 16.12.1909
Chile (Santiago) Madagascar (Moheli Is.) Southern Nigeria Russian PO in China Chefou - Ourga, Tchougoutchaki - Kalgan, Beijing, Tientsin	Service resumed Service resumed ????? 30 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 10 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 20 <i>f</i> (10 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i>	- - - 3,000 <i>francs</i> 10,000 <i>francs</i> 120,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 21, 12.05.1910
Brazil via Germany via France	25 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>f</i> 30 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>f</i>	10,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 1, 05.01.1911
French POs in Morocco	As per French POs	-	PTRT 10, 21.02.1911
*Cameroun Carolines, Mariana, Marshal Is, Palau British POs in China German POs in China via Russia (depends on city) Japanese POs in China via Russia via Italy Russian POs in China Chefou - Ourga, Tchougoutchaki - Kalgan, Beijing, Tientsin Kiautschou via Russia via Italy Korea via Russia via Italy Crete via Trieste	25 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 40 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 35 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 25, 30 or 35 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 20 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 25 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 30 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 10 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 25 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 35 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 25 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 20 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 25 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 20 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	10,000 <i>francs</i> 3,000 <i>francs</i> 3,000 <i>francs</i> 10,000 <i>francs</i> 10,000 <i>francs</i> 10,000 <i>francs</i> 10,000 <i>francs</i> 10,000 <i>francs</i> 120,000 <i>francs</i> 10,000 <i>francs</i> 10,000 <i>francs</i> 10,000 <i>francs</i> 10,000 <i>francs</i> 10,000 <i>francs</i> Unlimited	PTRT 51, 07.11.1911

Countries	Rate (previous values in (..))	Maximum	PTRT
Brazil via Romania via Germany via Germany and France	35 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 25 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i> 30 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	Unlimited 10,000 <i>francs</i> 10,000 <i>francs</i>	
Russian PO in China Kalgan	Service suspended	-	PTRT 4, 20.01.1912
Grenada St Lucia, St Vincent, British East Africa, Uganda Smyrna, Metelin via Romania	Service resumed 50 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>f</i> 35 <i>f</i> (25 <i>f</i>) per 300 <i>francs</i>	10,000 (3,000) <i>francs</i> 3,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 16, 15.03.1912
Turkish PO in Rhodes	Service suspended	-	PTRT 35, 01.07.1912
Portuguese India	Service opened	-	PTRT 46, 28.08.1912
European Turkey, now restricted to Constantinople	-	-	PTRT 64, 22.11.1912
Ethiopia Peking via Italy Portugal (change of currency)	35 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	10,000 <i>francs</i> 3,000 (10,000?) <i>francs</i> 200 <i>Escudos</i>	PTRT 34, 26.06.1913
Turkish POs in Turkey	20 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>francs</i>	10,000 <i>francs</i>	PTRT 121, 20.11.1914
Belgium	Service suspended	-	PTRT 16, 16.02.1915
Bulgaria, the German Empire, Italy, Romania, Switzerland, Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Turkey (Turkish post offices).	Service limited to these countries only, and must be submitted open for inspection at the post office	-	PTRT 36, 30.03.1915

* With **PTRT 51, 07.11.1911** are appended what appear to be replacement pages for the ‘*Postai Tarifák III*’ document concerning value letters and boxes. These data are taken from this sheet in abbreviated form.

Notes:

In **PTRT 59, 30.12.1908**: From 01.01.1909, value letters and boxes may be charged cash-on-delivery in traffic with the countries listed below. The maximum amount of cash on delivery for shipments from abroad to Hungary is 1,000 *korona*, and for shipments abroad, the amount indicated in brackets below after the name of the country in question. This applies to securities charged cash on delivery to the following countries, colonies, etc. can be sent to: Belgium (1,000 *francs*), Denmark with the Faroe Islands and Iceland (720 Scandinavian crowns), Egypt (1,000 *francs*), France, Monaco and Algeria (1,000 *francs*), Luxembourg (1,000 *francs*), the Netherlands (480 Dutch *Guilders*), from the German colonies: South-West Africa, East Africa, Cameroon, Kiatschu, Togo and the German post offices in China and Morocco (800 *Marks*), Norway (720 Scandinavian crowns), Italy, Eritrea and the Italian offices in Tripoli (1,000 *francs* [*Lira*]), Portugal (1,000 *francs*), Switzerland (1,000 *francs*), Sweden (720 Scandinavian crowns), Serbia (1,000 *francs*), Tunisia (1,000 *francs*).

In **PTRT 12, 06.03.1909**, Cash-on-delivery value letters and boxes can be sent to the following countries from March 1st of the current year, namely: to Romania (1,000 *Lei*), to Austrian offices in Turkey (1,000 *francs*), to the Dutch East Indies (480 *francs*), to Chile (530 Chilean *Pesos*), to Japan, including Taiwan (Formosa), Karafuto (Japanese Sakhalin) and Japanese offices in Korea, China and Manchuria (400 *Yen*).

In **PTRT 15, 16.03.1912** Cash on delivery value letters up to 800 *Marks* can be sent to Carolines, Mariana, Marshal Is, and Palau

In **PTRT 41, 29.07.1914** Cash on delivery value letters up to 1000 *Leva* or 1000 *K* can be sent to Bulgaria.

Wartime provisions:

In **PTRT 40/a, 26.07.1914**, all postal services with Serbia are suspended.

In **PTRT 43/a, 01.08.1914**, all postal traffic with Russia is halted.

In **PTRT 51, 09.08.1914**, all postal traffic with Montenegro is halted.

In **PTRT 55, 13.08.1914** re-emphasises that Russian, Serbian and Montenegrin mail is stopped.

In **PTRT 57, 14.08.1914**, Italy refused to accept any value letters or value boxes on its ships passing through the Suez Canal. Consequently, the Hungarian post office withdrew the service on those routes where Italy was the only provider, i.e. to Eritrea, Ethiopia, Carolina, Mariana, Marshall, Palau Islands: British post offices in China, British India, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Straits Settlements with Labuan, Federated Malay States, German East Indies, German East Africa, German New Guinea. To Japan (with Korea), Kiaochu, German and Japanese post offices in China, and Mozambique.

In **PTRT 58, 15.08.1914**, all postal traffic with France, Great Britain and Belgium is suspended (and by implication to all colonies).

In **PTRT 70, 29.08.1914**, value letters and boxes can be sent to Austro-Hungarian POWs in other countries through the POW search agencies. No postal charges are levied.

In **PTRT 127, 04.12.1914**, value letters and boxes can be sent (without cash on delivery) to Austro-Hungarian internees in Russia (via Romania) and Great Britain (via the German Netherlands).

In **PTRT 36, 30.03.1915**, public services for value letters and boxes seemed to become limited only to Axis or neutral countries: Bulgaria, the German Empire, Italy, Romania, Switzerland, Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Turkey (Turkish post offices). Only open mail could be accepted, subsequently sealed at the post office. Nothing to the USA could be insured.

In **PTRT 67, 22.06.1915** value letters and value boxes could be sent to Austrian and Hungarian internees and prisoners in France and its colonies.

In **PTRT 119, 30.11.1915**, all value mail to Austrian and Hungarian prisoners of war and internees in Great Britain, France or Italy and their colonies had to be addressed to Budapest 72 post office (PTRT 119, 30.11.1915) for inspection.

In **PTRT 141, 27.12.1915**, value letters and boxes can be sent to the Zurich Bureau for Missing People with no postal charges, principally for those missing or in captivity in Italy.

In **PTRT 46, 06.04.1916**, no metal money is to be sent to troops occupying Russian Poland or Serbia.

In **PTRT 66, 16.05.1916**, value letters can now be sent to troops in occupied Serbia.

In **PTRT 69, 20.05.1916**, value letters can now be sent to troops in Austrian-occupied Russia, and civilian mail can now be sent to occupied Montenegro.

Table 6: Letters with declared value – Foreign rates – 1916–1926

Start date	General rate per country of transmission [1]	Convention countries	Other countries, max. amounts			
01.10.1916	10 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>K</i>	AT, B-H, D	Not applicable			
		AT, D	CH	DK, LU	NL	SE
01.01.1920	30 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>FF</i>	See inland table	[2]	10,000 <i>FF</i>	20,000 <i>FF</i>	[3]
01.06.1920	1 <i>k</i> 50 <i>f</i> per 300 <i>FF</i>	See inland table		10,000 <i>FF</i>	20,000 <i>FF</i>	
01.07.1921 [4]	See table below	-	-	-	-	-
01.01.1922	5 <i>centimes</i> per 300 <i>FF</i> (15,000 <i>K</i>), minimum 20 <i>centimes</i> .	The postage amount indicated in the tariff in <i>francs</i> and <i>centimes</i> shall be converted into <i>Korona</i> value at the rate of 1 <i>centime</i> = 50 <i>fillér</i> , 1 <i>franc</i> = 50 <i>K</i> , and the item shall be postage paid with the resulting <i>Korona</i> amount.				
01.11.1922	5 <i>centimes</i> (20 <i>K</i>) per 300 <i>FF</i> (120,000 <i>K</i>)	-				
16.04.1923	5 <i>centimes</i> (40 <i>K</i>) per 300 <i>FF</i> (240,000 <i>K</i>)	The postage amount indicated in the tariff in <i>francs</i> and <i>centimes</i> shall be converted into <i>Korona</i> value at the rate of 1 <i>franc</i> = 800 <i>K</i> , and the item shall be postage paid with the resulting <i>Korona</i> amount.				
01.07.1923	5 <i>centimes</i> (75 <i>K</i>) per 300 <i>FF</i> (450,000 <i>K</i>)	The postage amount indicated in the tariff in <i>francs</i> and <i>centimes</i> shall be converted into <i>Korona</i> value at the rate of 1 <i>franc</i> = 1,500 <i>K</i> , and the item shall be postage paid with the resulting <i>Korona</i> amount.				
13.08.1923	5 <i>centimes</i> (150 <i>K</i>) per 300 <i>FF</i> (900,000 <i>K</i>)	The postage amount indicated in the tariff in <i>francs</i> and <i>centimes</i> shall be converted into <i>Korona</i> value at the rate of 1 <i>franc</i> = 3,000 <i>K</i> , and the item shall be postage paid with the resulting <i>Korona</i> amount.				
01.10.1923	5 <i>centimes</i> (200 <i>K</i>) per 300 <i>FF</i> (1,200,000 <i>K</i>)	The postage amount indicated in the tariff in <i>francs</i> and <i>centimes</i> shall be converted into <i>Korona</i> value at the rate of 1 <i>franc</i> = 4,000 <i>K</i> , and the item shall be postage paid with the resulting <i>Korona</i> amount.				
01.01.1924	5 <i>centimes</i> (300 <i>K</i>) per 300 <i>FF</i> (1,800,000 <i>K</i>)	The postage amount indicated in the tariff in <i>francs</i> and <i>centimes</i> shall be converted into <i>Korona</i> value at the rate of 1 <i>franc</i> = 6,000 <i>K</i> , and the item shall be postage paid with the resulting <i>Korona</i> amount.				
21.02.1924	5 <i>centimes</i> (500 <i>K</i>) per 300 <i>FF</i> (2,700,000 <i>K</i>)	The value declared in crowns is to be converted into <i>francs</i> by the sender, or if the sender fails to do so, by the receiving office at the rate of 9,000 <i>K</i> = 1 <i>franc</i> .				
11.04.1924	5 <i>centimes</i> (750 <i>K</i>) per 300 <i>FF</i> (4,500,000 <i>K</i>)	The value declared in crowns is to be converted into <i>francs</i> by the sender, or if the sender fails to do so, by the receiving office at the rate of 15,000 <i>K</i> = 1 <i>franc</i> .				
01.06.1924	50 <i>centimes</i> (9000 <i>K</i>) for every 300 <i>FF</i>	The value declared in crowns is to be converted into <i>francs</i> by the sender, or if the sender fails to do so, by the receiving office at the rate of 18,000 <i>K</i> = 1 <i>franc</i> .				
01.10.1925	50 <i>centimes</i> (7000 <i>K</i>) for every 300 <i>FF</i>	The value declared in crowns is to be converted into <i>francs</i> by the sender, or if the sender fails to do so, by the receiving office at the rate of 14,000 <i>K</i> = 1 <i>franc</i> .				

Note: In all cases the post office reserves the right to change the exchange rate according to international exchange rate movements.

[1] It appears from **PTRT 78, 22.12.1919** that the ‘number of countries’ includes Hungary, the destination and all countries between on the transmission route.

- [2] Three countries, hence 90 *f* per 300 *FF*.
- [3] To Sweden 120 *f* via Sassnitz, 150 *f* through Denmark, and 150 *f* through Norway via Sassnitz, 180 *f* through Denmark.
- [4] Regime change in **PTRT 48, 28.06.1921**. Tables of values for different countries expressed in *centimes*, see below:

Maximum, francs

Value letters per 300 francs

Value boxes weight fee

Value boxes value fee

no. declarations

1. Az értéklevelek és értékdobozok tárhaja.

Rendeltetési ország	A nyilvánítható érték maximuma frankban	Értéklevél	Értékdoboz		
		az ajánlott levél díja és 300 frankonkénti értékdíj	súlydíj	értékdíj 300 frankonként	a csatolandó árbevallások száma
		centime			
Ausztria	korlátlan	10 (minimum 20)	nem küldhető		
Németország, Danzig, Memel terület		15 (minimum 20)	nem küldhető		
Egyéb külföld:					
Belgium	10,000	20	140	20	3
Dánországon át	*) korlátlan	20	140	20	2
Finnországon át	*) 120,000	35	—	—	—
Luxemburg	10,000	20	115	20	2
Németalföld	*) 25,000	20	140	20	3
Norvégia					
a) Svédországon át	*) korlátlan	25	—	—	—
b) Dánországon át	*) korlátlan	35	240	35	2
Sarre vidék	*) korlátlan	20	—	—	—
Svájc	*) korlátlan	15 (minimum 20)	120	15 (min. 20)	2
Svédország					
a) Sassnitzon át	*) korlátlan	20	—	—	—
b) Dánián át	*) korlátlan	25	—	—	—

*) Ausztria az átmenő forgalomban az értékhátárt 10.000 frankban állapította meg, ezért egyelőre értéklevél és értékdoboz nagyobb értéknyilvánítással nem látható el.

Table 7: Letters with declared value – Foreign rates – 1927-1944

Date	Declared value rate	PTRT
01.04.1926	No specific data for foreign letter mail, only for parcels.	PTRT 15, 30.03.1926
01.01.1927	50 <i>f</i> (45 <i>centimes</i>) per 300 <i>FF</i> (336 <i>P</i>)	PTRT 61, 18.12.1926
15.09.1941	80 <i>f</i> per 500 <i>P</i>	PTRT 44, 09.09.1941

Notes:

PTRT 3, 26.01.1927: Loose coins shall not exceed 4 *P* 99 *f* and shall be wrapped and fixed inside the envelope.

PTRT 46, 17.10.1927: Italy: limit to declared value of 2,000 *FF*.

PTRT 4, 16.01.1942: Value letters not exceeding 5,000 *FF* can again be sent to Spain and Portugal.

There were no later changes up to cessation of postal services in late 1944. No details concerning insurance for foreign mail during the hyperinflation period are available but bearing in mind the foreign mail restrictions and the state of the monetary system this, this is not surprising.

Table 8: Letters with declared value – Foreign rates – 1946 onwards

Note: Data on this service are unclear, and often not shown in any publicly available document. From the early 1950s up to 2003, these data were not explicitly stated in postal notices, but the service must have been available. From 2003 the data are derived from public Magyar Posta postal rate summaries. It is not clear if these rates applied only to letters or to other or all forms of mail including parcels and COD.

Date	Europe	Overseas	Source
1948	1.20 Ft per 1,000 Ft	Same?	<i>Postai Tarifák adók Illetékek Közlekedési</i>
1951	1.20 Ft per 1,000 Ft	Same?	<i>Postai Tarifák adók Illetékek Közlekedési</i>
<i>No data are currently available after 1951 until 2002</i>			
01.06.2002	?	?	Magya Posta postal notices
05.11.2002	115 Ft per 5,000 Ft	?	
01.08.2003	115 Ft per 5,000 Ft	?	
16.04.2004	125 Ft per 5,000 Ft	125 Ft per 5,000 Ft	
01.10.2005	130 Ft per 5,000 Ft	130 Ft per 5,000 Ft	
01.01.2006	140 Ft per 5,000 Ft	140 Ft per 5,000 Ft	
01.01.2007	150 Ft per 5,000 Ft	150 Ft per 5,000 Ft	
01.01.2008	200 Ft per 5,000 Ft		
01.01.2009	250 Ft per 5,000 Ft		
01.01.2010	350 Ft per 5,000 Ft		
01.01.2011	350 Ft per 5,000 Ft		
01.01.2012	350 Ft per 5,000 Ft		
01.01.2013	350 Ft per 5,000 Ft		
01.01.2015	385 Ft per 5,000 Ft		
01.01.2016	405 Ft per 5,000 Ft		
01.01.2017	415 Ft per 5,000 Ft		
01.01.2018	415 Ft per 5,000 Ft		
01.02.2019	515 Ft per 5,000 Ft		
01.07.2020	595 Ft per 5,000 Ft		
01.01.2021	655 Ft per 5,000 Ft		-
01.07.2022	655 Ft per 5,000 Ft		‘Maximum amount depends on country’
01.01.2025	655 Ft per 5,000 Ft		‘Maximum amount depends on country’