

"I am sure that the newly elected Secretary General of NATO, the former Prime Minister of Norway, Jens Stoltenberg, will maintain the position of NATO as an influential organisation successfully defending our common values and interests in the complicated times that await all of us," told the President, Toomas Hendrik Ilves.

"Jens Stoltenberg is a person with a clear understanding of the principles and values that form the foundation for the alliance and the unshakable will to maintain the consensus of NATO's allies. These are the principles that are not to be traded with," added the Estonian Head of State.

He thanked the current Secretary General of NATO, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, for steady management of the alliance.

"I have no doubt whatsoever that the top summit of NATO, which is to take place in September of this year, will confirm the strength of Trans-Atlantic bonds and will put the protection of NATO's own territory in focus," said President Ilves.

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