

President Toomas Hendrik Ilves and First Lady Mrs. Evelin Ilves will pay a state visit to Norway on 2 – 4 September at the invitation of King Harald V.

The state visit, announced today also by Norway, will focus on closer political, security-related and economic relations between Estonia and Norway, based on common values, also co-operation in the sphere of ICT and innovation, cultural ties, mutual communication between citizen civil societies and higher involvement of the young in the society.

The Estonian Head of State and his spouse will be hosted at an official ceremony in Oslo by King Harald V and Queen Sonja, who will give a dinner at the royal castle in the honour of the guests.

President Ilves will hold discussions with the Speaker of the Norwegian Parliament, Olemic Thommessen and the Prime Minister, Erna Solberg. He will give an opening address at the European Conference, organised by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and give a speech at a higher military school.

Accompanied by King Harald V and Queen Sonja, President Ilves and Evelin Ilves will pay a visit to Frivillighetshuset, which is a home for several Norwegian civil society organisations, where they will meet with third sector promoters of youth.

President Ilves will be accompanied by a representative business delegation; the Estonian-Norwegian business forum will be opened during the state visit.

On the last day of the visit, the Estonian Head of State and his spouse will together with the royal couple travel to Trondheim to pay a visit, among other places, to the Kavli Institute of the Norwegian University of Research and Technology.

Office of the President

## **President Ilves to leave for state visit to Norway in beginning of September**

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