The President, Toomas Hendrik Ilves, sent a letter of condolences today to his French colleague, François Hollande, to express his condolences in the wake of the Air Algerie plane crash.

"Please allow me to forward sincere condolences from the people of Estonia on the occasion of the tragic plane crash in Mali. Please convey my words of support to the next of kin of the deceased. You are in our thoughts during this difficult time," the Head of State wrote.

An Air Algerie passenger airplane, which was travelling from Burkina Faso to Algeria, crashed on 24 July. According to the information currently available, the aircraft was carrying 116 people, including 51 French citizens and citizens of Burkina Faso, Algeria, Canada, Ukraine, Luxemburg, Germany, Belgium, Cameroon, Egypt, Mali, Switzerland and Lebanon. All six crew members of the aircraft were citizens of Spain.

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