

The President, Toomas Hendrik Ilves, met with the commanders of the Estonian Defence Forces to discuss the influence of the defence decision adopted by the recent NATO summit related to the defence policy of the Republic of Estonia and our Defence Forces, and to thank the commanders of the Defence Forces for the good job they have done in hosting the allied troops.

The President of the Republic, who is also the supreme commander of national defence, emphasised that the presence of the allies in the Republic of Estonia is of key importance and it is the task of the Government of the Republic and the Defence Forces to ensure that the allied troops have the required infrastructure and the capacity to absorb the additional troops of the allies.

"We must also think about the most effective ways of involving the troops in developing the abilities of the Estonian Defence Forces in the best, most visible and most active way," told President Ilves.

The NATO Summit and the visit made to Estonia by the President of the United States of America, Barack Obama, once again assured us that all the primary deterrence measures will be continued and some new ones will be added, the Head of State said. The Commander of the Defence Forces, Major General Riho Terras; Secretary General of the Ministry of Defence, Mikk Marran; Deputy Commander of the Defence Forces, Colonel Artur Tiganik; Chief of Staff of the Headquarters of the Defence Forces, Navy Captain Igor Schvede; Commander of the Estonian Navy, Navy Captain Sten Sepper; Commander of the Estonian Air Force, Colonel Jaak Tarien; Commander of the Estonian Defence League, Brigadier Meelis Kiili; and Commandant of the Estonian National Defence College, Colonel Martin Herem, were present at the meeting.

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