

Today, President Toomas Hendrik Ilves will begin his working visit to the United States, where he will speak at the general debate of the 69th regular session of the UN General Assembly, at the security debate organised by the International Peace Institute and at the climate change summit. As an alumni, the President will also give a public lecture at Columbia University.

The Estonian Head of State will give a speech on the first day of the general debate of the 69th session of the UN General Assembly, on the evening of 24 September. The main subjects of his speech at the world organisation will be the challenges of international law in light of the Ukrainian conflict, international terrorism and Internet freedom.

The head of state will give a speech titled The New Security Reality of Europe at the security debate organised by the International Peace Institute, and at a climate change summit.

At Columbia University, President Ilves will hold a public lecture on international politics, focusing on geopolitics, ideological warfare and the Ukrainian conflict.

President Ilves will take part in the formal reception held by President Barack Obama on the occasion of the opening session of the UN General Assembly and will hold a reception at the Estonian House in New York with the Estonian Consulate General. The head of state will also meet with enterprising young Estonians active in New York and the East Coast.

President Ilves will open the photo exhibition The Waterfowl People, which introduces Lennart Meri's Finno-Ugric film travels, at the UN conference rooms within the framework of the UN's high-level week and the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, and he will visit the greatest photography event in New York, the Photoville festival, where the Estonian photographer Annika Haas will participate with her series Plane Watchers.

President Ilves' working visit to the United States will last until 26 September.

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