

The President, Toomas Hendrik Ilves, took a flight to Brussels today on a working visit, where he will meet with several current and future commissioners of the European Commission and discuss the future of the digital society with the Permanent Representatives Committee of the European Union and members of the European Parliament.

The purpose of the visit of the Head of State is to confirm to the representatives of various institutions – the European Commission, the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament – Estonia's willingness to contribute to the digital development of the European Union and support for the establishment of a common digital market and the provision of cross-border e-services.

In Brussels, the Head of State will meet with the vice presidents of the European Commission; European Commissioner for Digital Agenda, Neelie Kroes; Commissioner for Transport, Siim Kallas; and the future leaders of the European Commission – the Vice President and the new Commissioner for Digital Agenda, Andrus Ansip; the Vice President, Jyrki Katainen; and the Commissioner-designate for Digital Economy and Society, Günther Oettinger.

President Ilves will discuss methods to be adopted to achieve better progress in the development of a common digital market and to eliminate the currently existing obstacles between the member states with the President of the European Parliament, Martin Schulz, representatives of different fractions of the European Parliament and the Permanent Representatives Committee of the European Union (COREPER I).

President Ilves will also give a presentation at the opening event of eIDAS, a regulation that harmonises electronic identification and digital signature.

The Head of State will return to Estonia on Thursday evening.

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