

"I would like to thank all the citizens of Estonia who voted in the Riigikogu elections and in doing so chose to shape the future of Estonia," said the President, Toomas Hendrik Ilves, following the parliamentary elections that took place on 1 March.

"We can see a significant change in the structure of the Riigikogu and the need for a broader coalition, which will engage in more extensive and wider-ranging co-operation both within the new coalition and with the opposition parties," stated the Head of State.

He congratulated Taavi Rõivas, the Chairman of the Reform Party, which secured the majority of votes in the elections.

President Ilves will start post-election political meetings with the representatives of the parties that were elected to the Riigikogu.

"Estonia needs a responsible and capable government that will attach equal importance to improving the well-being of people; maintaining Estonia's security, governance and local government reforms; ensuring successful preparations for Estonia's presidency of the European Union and improving the political culture," explained the Head of State.

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