The President, Toomas Hendrik Ilves, who arrived in the US for the opening week of the UN 70th General Assembly, held a reception on Sunday night to acknowledge the local Estonian community in New York in co-operation with the Estonian Consulate and the New York Estonian Educational Society at the Estonia House.

In his address, President Ilves expressed his pleasure with the fact that Eston Kohver, who spent a year in prison in Russia, was returned to Estonian soil; this earned strong applause from the Estonian community gathered in Estonia House.

The Head of State also spoke about the security situation on NATO's eastern border, trans-Atlantic relations and the refugee crisis that has hit Europe.

Office of the President Public Relations Department