

Today in Kadriorg, Jakub Forst-Battaglia, the Ambassador of Austria, made a farewell visit to President Toomas Hendrik Ilves, who thanked the Ambassador for his long-term contribution to the development of bilateral relations between Estonia and Austria. In recognition of the Ambassador's service, President Ilves presented him with the Order of the Cross of Terra Mariana, First Class.

President Ilves confirmed that bilateral relations between Estonia and Austria are very good in the fields of political, economic, as well as cultural dialogue, and that Estonia feels it is important to continue good relations and cooperation, as well as high-level bilateral visits.

"Your time of service included the achievement of important foreign policy goals for Estonia, such as joining the European Union and NATO. We are very thankful for Austria's strong support for our endeavors," said President Ilves.

The Austrian Ambassador thanked the Estonian Head of State for the honor conferred upon him, by saying that it is very pleasing to be making a farewell visit to the President who was the Minister of Foreign Affairs when he arrived.

"Estonia is an example for the rest of Europe which needs more solidarity and a sense of togetherness," said Ambassador Forst-Battaglia.

Public Relations Department of the Office of the President
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