

President Toomas Hendrik Ilves sent a New Year's greeting to the members of the Defence Forces on Estonia's foreign missions, in which he wishes them and their families a peaceful end to the old year and the fulfillment of their wishes in the upcoming year.

"You will be welcoming the New Year far from home in Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Balkans. You are performing difficult and, as the news of recent days harshly and regrettably shows, very dangerous work on behalf of your country," wrote the President of the Republic in his New Year's greeting.

The Head of State added, "Your work is important to Estonia, it creates confidence in our defence forces and in our country as a whole. Moreover, if our country is a trustworthy ally, then our allies will help us if we are in trouble."

"We, who will be welcoming the New Year in our warm homes in peaceful Estonia, have a duty to support you in every way. I thank you for your excellent service, and your family members and intimates who provide you with a secure homefront," wrote President Ilves.

Public Relations Department of the Office of the President
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