President Toomas Hendrik IIves signed a resolution today regarding the honoring of 342 Estonian and foreign citizens with state decorations of the Republic of Estonia for services to the Estonian state and people.

The Republic of Estonia thanks people who are dedicated to their vocation, scientists and doctors, teachers and volunteers, police and rescue officials, diplomats and members of Defence Forces that have participated in foreign missions, Estonia's friends and supporters in foreign countries, freedom fighters and preservers of history, cultural stewards and promoters of local life, as well as representatives of many spheres of life, to whom Estonia owes its thanks.

The state decorations that are bestowed on the eve of the 89th anniversary of the Republic of Estonia place importance on courage, dedication, dignity, and a sense of duty in the formation of Estonian life.

<u>The resolution</u> of the Head of State regarding the bestowal of state decorations can be found on the website of the Office of the President of the Republic at www.president.ee.

Public Relations Department of the Office of the President Kadriorg, 7 February 2007