

Today in Kadriorg, President Toomas Hendrik Ilves met with leaders of organizations for disabled people, who familiarized the Head of State with the problems disabled people face coping with everyday life and achieving self-fulfillment.

A wide range of issues was covered at the meeting, such as the provision of the Estonian Constitution pursuant to which disabled people are under the special care of the national and local governments. According to the representatives of the organizations, the situation of people with special needs has improved in Estonia from year to year, but the breakthrough that would create equal opportunities for all compatriots has still not been achieved.

Special attention was paid to the opportunities for disabled people to get quality education and jobs, as well as to use public transportation, and their right for unhindered access to national and local authorities.

According to President Ilves, in the drafting of its legislation, but especially in the enforcement of its laws, Estonia must follow the example of the European Union and the US, where great attention is paid to people with special needs. "Every person is important. I appreciate the work done by the Estonian Chamber of Disabled People, as well as all the movements and organizations, and in my activities will try to direct attention to your needs and problems."

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