

“You managed your work splendidly, restored order, and I and the Estonian nation are thankful to you for this,” President Toomas Hendrik Ilves said yesterday on a visit to the inter-agency operational headquarters at the Northern Police Prefecture, which is assigned with keeping public order in Tallinn.

“We survived a serious crisis. This is the first time in the last 16 years that we witnessed an attempt to destabilize and cripple the Estonian state,” President Ilves said, characterizing the unrest in Tallinn and East-Virumaa at the end of April and the tension that remained at the beginning of May.

The operational headquarters that has been operating for sixteen days and nights in a row includes representatives of various governmental forces and local governments.

“You, more than anyone else, are currently on the front line of maintaining Estonian security,” President Ilves said addressing the officials working at the operational headquarters. “Also, please forward my thanks to your family members.”

Director of the operational headquarters, Tarmo Miilits, introduced the headquarters’ activities and internal work allocation to the Head of State.

“It would be wrong to think that, now that the crisis is abating, we can feel complacent and indifferent disregard about our future, because those who wish to cripple the Estonian state have not disappeared,” said President Ilves.