"The Postimees stands on the Estonian cultural landscape alongside the Vanemuine Theater, the song festival tradition, the blue-black-and-white flag, and everything else immemorial," said President Toomas Hendrik Ilves in the video greeting he sent on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the Postimees, that was shown yesterday at the Estonia Concert Hall.

"The Postimees and Estonia are inseparable. Not in the sense that the Postimees deals in governmental matters, or vice versa. We well know that the periods when the development of the newspaper and the Estonian state have crossed or overlapped were not good times for the newspaper or Estonia," said the Head of State.

"Together with its one-time and current competitors, the Postimees has helped Estonians to grow into a self-confident nation. It has helped us build and strengthen our country—during the Period of National Awakening in the second half of the 19th century, at the beginning of the 20th century, and during the reawakening of the Estonian people at the end of the 1980s," said President Ilves.

"Both the Postimees and the Estonian nation have tended to business. This "business" embodies much more than the 150-year journey of a newspaper from Pärnu through Tartu to Tallinn. It includes the encouragement, teaching, and criticism others, including the state. However, mistakes have also been made. Making us all better and smarter," said the Head of State, wishing the producers and readers of the Postimees bright ideas and faith in the future.

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