

At a meeting in Hague on Friday, President Toomas Hendrik Ilves and Dutch Foreign Minister Maxime Jacques Marcel Verhagen discussed issues related to Europe and the European Union.

The Head of State and the Dutch Foreign Minister discussed the European Union Constitutional Treaty and expansion of the Union at length.

“The member states must perceive the internal solidarity of the European Union, in order to achieve the trust that is necessary for the execution of common foreign and security policies,” said President Ilves.

The President and the Dutch Foreign Minister also talked about the Competition Policy.

“It is unwarranted that serious restrictions have been placed on the free movement of services, in a situation where there are no restrictions on the free movement of capital,” said President Ilves. “This does not promote fair and competitive economic development.”

The European Union’s relations with Russia were also discussed at the meeting.

“The continuation of the dialogue between the European Union and Russia is important, but the Union cannot allow the use of energy carriers for political pressure,” said the Estonian Head of State.

President Ilves and Foreign Minister Verhagen also spoke about the problems in the Middle East and Kosovo.

“In foreign policy there is a general rule that every situation is unique and the solution of Kosovo’s status cannot be a precedent for the resolution of other conflicts,” said President Ilves.

The topic of cybercrime as an important issue was also discussed.

“European Union legislation to combat cybercrime and cyberattacks must be worked out as soon as possible,” said the Estonian Head of State.

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