

“Yesterday, President Toomas Hendrik Ilves met with a U.S. Congressional delegation that is visiting Estonia, which is led by House Republican Leader John Boehner.

President Ilves recalled the meeting on June 25th at the White House with U.S. President George W. Bush, who said that his administration is interested in expanding the Visa Waiver Program to Estonia as quickly as possible and that now the corresponding decisions must be made by the Congress.

“The Visa Waiver Program represents the dignified treatment of one’s allies,” said the Estonian Head of State and the Congressional representatives promised to support Estonia.

President Ilves spoke with the Congressional members about the NATO cyber security center planned for Tallinn, in which Estonia has invited U.S. specialists to participate.

Relations with the European Union and the United States, the need to speak about global political issues with a single voice, and Russia were also discussed at the meeting.

The members of the U.S. Congress acknowledged Estonia’s success after the restoration of independence and the country’s economic reforms.

“Yes, we have been very successful, but we still have much to learn,” said President Ilves.

Office of the President
Public Relations Department
Phone +372 631 6229