

President Toomas Hendrik Ilves and Mrs. Evelin Ilves, who are in Sweden in connection with the opening of the Göteborg Book Fair, visited the Ågrenska Foundation near Göteborg today. This is a family counseling and rehabilitation center for families with disabled children, which has been operating for almost 20 years.

The Ågrenska Foundation in Sweden is one of the founders of the Eesti Ågrenska Foundation. The large-scale project of the foundation is the creation of a family counseling and rehabilitation center for Estonia's disabled children and their families in the Tammistu Manor near Tartu.

Next week, Queen Silvia of Sweden will participate in "laying the cornerstone" for the renovation of the manor.

"It is important that neither children nor parents in families with disabled children feel that they are alone," said President Ilves. "This can be avoided, or at least mitigated to start, if there is the opportunity to learn from other families in similar situations—an opportunity to communication, an exchange of support and experience from family to family."

The President of the Republic, who made the opening speech at the Göteborg Book Fair, also spoke at a seminar entitled "Estonia's Place in the European Union" organized at the fair, met with important members of the business community at The Royal Bachelors Club with the Governor Göte Bernhardsson and the Lord Mayor Jörgen, and visited the Honorary Consul of Estonia in Göteborg.

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