

Today in Kadriorg, President Toomas Hendrik Ilves met with the Pärnu County Governor Toomas Kivimägi, Viljandi County Governor Kalle Küttis and Võru County Governor Ülo Tulik, and discussed the challenges that will follow Estonia's accession to the Schengen visa zone.

“Joining the Schengen visa and legal zone is a great opportunity for everyone who has unjustly felt they are on the edge of world, for the people, entrepreneurs, and local governments of the counties that are pressed up against the border,” said the Head of State.

The County Governors spoke of the need to expand traffic between Estonia and Latvia and to repair the closed border roads that could increase tourism and the development of enterprise.

According to the County Governors, it is necessary to establish a commission for Estonian-Latvian cross-border cooperation under the leadership of the Minister of Regional Affairs, which can manage bilateral projects but also solve problems after December 21st, when Estonia joins the common Schengen space.

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