

President Toomas Hendrik Ilves received Tofiq N. Zulfugarov, the Ambassador of Azerbaijan, who presented his credentials yesterday.

“Estonia welcomes the appointment of an Azerbaijan Ambassador, because we are interested in closer cooperation with your country,” said President Ilves. “Our relations to date have not been very close, although both countries wish to develop mutual economic and political ties, and this is also confirmed by the official visit of Foreign Minister Urmas Paet to Baku next week with a business delegation.”

At the meeting following the presentation of credentials, the Estonian Head of State and Ambassador Zulfugarov discussed European Union and NATO cooperation with Azerbaijan, energy-related developments in the Caspian region, as well as the situation in Transcaucasia.

“Frozen conflicts are a danger to the security and stability of any region,” said President Ilves. “Estonia supports the peaceful and constructive resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and the endeavors of the OSCE and other international organizations to help regulate the conflict.”

The President of the Republic confirmed that Estonia is ready to provide help to Azerbaijan and to share its reform experiences in the form of seminars and training, to organize consultations regarding legislative harmonization, banking, privatization, and other fields of activity, based on the needs of the partner country.

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