

“Estonia and Hungary have similar foreign policy priorities, we are partners in the European Union and NATO, and the kindred relationship of our people—these all make us into very strong allies,” said President Toomas Hendrik Ilves at yesterday’s meeting with Hungary’s Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsány.

The Estonian Head of State highlighted the close cultural relations of the two countries and their cooperation in the field of education in the course of which Estonia and Hungary exchange both students and lecturers.

“Our, not very dynamic, trade is nevertheless demonstrating signs of growth, and Estonian entrepreneurs see Hungary as a promising and competitive market in Central Europe,” said President Ilves.

At the meeting, the Estonian Head of State and the Hungarian Prime Minister also spoke about developments in the European Union and the neighborhood, energy, and security policies of the Community, as well as about cooperation for assisting the Finno-Ugric peoples who live in Russia.

“I am pleased that Estonia and Hungary emphasize similar aspects regarding the European Union Reform Treaty—the more effective functioning of the Community, closer integration within the Union, and better cooperation in foreign affairs,” said the President of the Republic.

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