

“I am delighted to see young, trustworthy, educated and business-like officers, who will shape the future face of the Estonian Defence Forces,” President Toomas Hendrik Ilves said on 26 November on his visit to the Võru Combat School and Kuperjanov Infantry Battalion.

“During the last few years, the development of the Kuperjanov Battalion’s infrastructure has been impressive,” said the Head of State, who was shown the unit’s renovated barracks.

Captain Tõnis Org, commander of the Võru Combat School and Major Toomas Möls, commander of the Kuperjanov Infantry Battalion, both stressed that the establishment of the Nursipalu Training Field is necessary for high-quality training and expressed their hope that this issue can be resolved in cooperation with the local governments.

Meeting with the members of the Võru Brigade of the Defence League, President Ilves thanked them for their strong support in April and May, when the members of the Defence League helped to maintain order in Võru and other South-Estonian towns.

“Membership in the Defence League is a matter of honor, and I believe that more local government leaders and private entrepreneurs, who could set an example for others, are being to understand this,” said the Head of State.

President Ilves also visited the Võro Institute today, where he met with the leadership of the Institute.

“By maintaining your own language, attitudes, and culture, you have set a good example for many others, including the *mulks*,” the Head of State wrote in the guestbook at the Võro Institute.

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