

Yesterday morning at St. John's Church, President Toomas Hendrik Ilves participated at the funeral of Sergeant Major Ivar Brok, who died while performing his assignments during his service in the international military operation in Afghanistan.

"Ivar Brok, who was serving on a mission to Afghanistan for the second time, was a capable soldier who was dedicated to his mission," President Ilves said in his message of condolence to the soldier's family. "It is inconsolably painful and infinitely unfair that we must now bow our heads to commemorate Ivar Brok's death." President Ilves also passed along the heartfelt condolences of Latvian President Valdis Zatlers and Lithuanian Head of States Valdas Adamkus to Ivar Brok's relatives and friends.

Last week the Estonian Head of State decided to posthumously award the Military Gold Order of the Cross of the Eagle to Senior Sergeant Major Ivar Brok.

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