Today in Kadriorg, President Toomas Hendrik Ilves received the best secondary and vocational school as well as university graduates and thanked them for the work they have done and affirmed that Estonia appreciates its smart people.

"When we look back on the last year, then, according to the PISA studies, Estonian students are among the best in the world—you are those world's best," the Head of State said in his remarks to the graduates. "I thank you for the good work you have done and effort you have made. Believe me, it is worth it."

According to President Ilves, it is positive that Estonia's young people go to study at institutions of higher learning abroad. "It is our responsibility to make sure Estonia is so good that you want to come back," he said.

"You are lucky because you've been able to grow up in an independent and democratic Estonia," the Head of State said in conclusion. "I hope that you will promote these values and be able to make our country even better."

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