

Yesterday at a reception for the representatives of the creative associations at the Kumu Museum in Kadriorg, President Toomas Hendrik Ilves presented a commemorative stone for the restoration of Estonian independence to Lagle Parek.

“We know that allegiance to the principles of freedom and democracy is what freed our people and our country. Allegiance to one’s character, or courage,” President Ilves said to the audience. “This is just what I expect in this free country of its creators today and tomorrow.”

When presenting the commemorative stone to Lagle Parek, President Ilves said that to care about one’s country and people is to care about people, simply and practically. “This is what you have demonstrated in your wonderful career. I thank you for this”, he said.

Last year, the Head of State presented a commemorative stone to artist Heinz Valk.

The full text of President Ilves’s speech is available [here](#).

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