

President Toomas Hendrik Ilves will travel to Poland on a working visit today in order to receive the 2008 grand prize from the Polish Business Club Association in Warsaw tomorrow.

The presentation of the Polish Business Club Oscar is recognition of President Ilves's work in promoting the ideas of an integrated Europe, supporting the enlargement of the European Union, promoting democracy, and expanding friendly and diverse cooperation between Poland and Estonia, as well as the other Baltic countries.

According to Ryszard Konwerski, the President of the Polish Business Club Association, President Ilves's interest in and support for the Polish state and people has been for the Polish businessworld a source of hope for further development of friendship between our nations and an ever increasing growth of economic cooperation and for creating, in Poland, solutions fostering the integration process.

The prize is presented by the Polish Business Club Association to recognise people whose activities on the international arena support Poland's objectives for European integration and the achievement and maintenance of an equal position among democratic countries. In the past, this award has been presented to Javier Solana, Margaret Thatcher, Valdas Adamkus, Pat Cox and Lech Wałęsa.

In the course of the visit, President Ilves will also meet tonight with Polish President Lech Kaczyński, who will host a dinner in honor of President Ilves after the working meeting. The Estonian Head of State will also open a Polish-Estonian business seminar on Warsaw tomorrow.

President Ilves will arrive back in Estonia on Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>.

**President Ilves will receive a prestigious Polish business award tomorrow**

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