Today in Kadriorg, President Toomas Hendrik Ilves met with Chairman of the Pro Patria and Res Publica Union and Member of the Riigikogu Mart Laar, Chairman of the Reform Party and Prime Minister Andrus Ansip and Chairman of the Social Democratic Party and Minister of Finance Ivari Padar, who informed the Head of State of the actions taken by the ruling coalition to compile a negative national budget for 2009.

"I await carefully considered and decisive action from the government that will guarantee the sustainable functioning of the country even in complicated times and prevent the country's bankruptcy should the global economic crisis worsen," President Ilves said, and added that it is also important that agreements achieved by the government this week would be understandable to as many people as possible and that inevitable and painful budgetary cuts would not eliminate the preconditions for future development.

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