"By naming the Tallinn Airport after Lennart Meri we express our respect for the Republic of Estonia, our history and democratic values," said President Toomas Hendrik Ilves at the ceremony, which took place at midday in the Tallinn Airport.

"The honoring and dignified commemoration of one's history and great figures is part of behaving as a nation," President Ilves said. "I wish to thank journalist Argo Ideon, who was the first to propose that the Tallinn Airport be named after Lennart Meri."

The Head of State recalled that Lennart Meri was a great traveler. He added, "Every traveler wants to start and end his journey safely and in good spirits. Therefore, it is very natural that the Tallinn Airport be named after a person who enjoyed being on the road, meeting different kinds of people and cultures. But who always appreciated coming back home."

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