"In the 21st century, the misuse of cyberspace has become a serious challenge and security threat, as we have unfortunately seen in several countries," President Ilves said. President Toomas Hendrik Ilves and Spanish King Juan Carlos visited the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence in Tallinn today.

"In the 21st century, the misuse of cyberspace has become a serious challenge and security threat, as we have unfortunately seen in several countries," President Ilves said. "This cross-border threat can only be controlled through very close international cooperation and information exchange."

The Estonian Head of State expressed thanks to Spain for participating in the start up of the centre and supporting its continued operations. "Today a team of capable and international scientists is working here, who are assigned the task of strengthening the cyber-defence-related capabilities of NATO countries. I'm glad to see two Spanish researchers in the Centre as the national contribution," the President said.

"In order to guarantee cyber security, we must also significantly improve the international judicial area, in order to make it possible to pursue and punish cybercriminals," President Ilves stressed. "Cybercrime must be treated everywhere as a criminal act."

CCD COE is an International Military Organization (IMO), fully accredited by NATO's North Atlantic Council on the 28th of October, 2008. CCD COE is located in Tallinn, Estonia on the premises of Estonian Signals Battalion.

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