

Last evening in Kadriorg, President Toomas Hendrik Ilves met with Mart Laar, Member of the Riigikogu and Chairman of the Union of Pro Patria and Res Publica, Prime Minister Andrus Ansip, Chairman of the Reform Party, and Jüri Pihl, Minister of the Interior and Chairman of the Social Democratic Party, who updated the Head of State on the ruling coalition's plans to amend the 2009 national budget in connection with new financial projections.

According to the Head of State, the government must demonstrate decisiveness in order to avoid solvency problems related to the projection of an almost 10-percent economic decline and the reduction of tax revenues related thereto.

"In the developed situation, the government must seriously discuss all options for balancing the country's revenues and expenses, without being hindered by past election promises. Currently, no sensible solution can be ruled out," President Ilves stressed.

According to the Head of State, the planned budgetary and tax amendments must be accompanied by a substantive parliamentary and public discussion.

Office of the President
Public Relations Department
Phone +372 631 6229