President Ilves's spoke at the 39th St. Gallen Symposium on economics and politics on the topic "20 Years after the Fall of the Berlin Wall – New Challenges Facing Europe" President Toomas Hendrik Ilves's spoke today at the 39th St. Gallen Symposium on economics and politics on the topic "20 Years after the Fall of the Berlin Wall – New Challenges Facing Europe".

The Estonian Head of State, who spoke on Europe Day, discussed the need to focus already now on those issues, which would help the European Union emerge from the current economic crisis even stronger.

The challenges facing the European Union are greater than just coping with the financial and economic crisis, stressed President Ilves.

Along with energy security, the Estonian Head of State emphasized the following topics as being of great importance: the total implementation of the European Union's four freedoms, expressly as it applies to free movement, because a poorly functioning internal market weakens the European Union; and transparency and the observation of the Community's competition rules, which means the restriction of any and all economic and political corruption.

"These are fundamental topics that are based on the fundamental values of the European Union," said President Ilves.

President Ilves's presentation at the St. Gallen Symposium is available at <u>www.stgallen-symp</u> <u>osium.org</u>

St. Gallen Symposium media-channel

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