"Having chosen Estonian citizenship, you have made a choice of greater significance than any right or activity that accompanies citizenship," "Having chosen Estonian citizenship, you have made a choice of greater significance than any right or activity that accompanies citizenship," President Toomas Hendrik Ilves said today at the formal ceremony to present citizenship certificates at the Kumu Art Museum in Tallinn. "This is self-definition or a choice of identity, more exactly a choice of a complementary or collateral identity."

"I sincerely hope that your identity as an Estonian citizen will bring you all joy and give you a sense of belonging that does not depend on nationality and does not differentiate us by native language," the Head of State said.

According to President Ilves, Estonia is a family of open and benevolent people. "You have become a member of that family today, a member who has a say, whose concerns count, and who is responsible that this family – our Estonian state – lasts over time."

Citizenship certificates were presented today to 129 new Estonian citizens of Tallinn and the Harju area.

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