

President Ilves will leave for a work visit to the West-Coast of the United States of America. President Toomas Hendrik Ilves will leave tomorrow for a work visit to the West-Coast of the United States of America. The purpose of the visit is to introduce Estonia and Estonian technology entrepreneurs, while promoting co-operation with local entrepreneurs in Silicon Valley, an area for developing research and state-of-art technology.

“Silicon Valley is definitely one of the most important points of attraction for both technology-related expert knowledge and the concentration of risk capital,” President Ilves said. “Estonian technology enterprises have numerous clever ideas that require venture capital and the involvement of partners for their successful implementation.”

The Head of State will visit well-known multi-national companies such as Symantec, Apple, Cisco, e-Bay, and Skype.

As an influential foreign and security politics expert, President Ilves will also give a speech at the World Affairs Council in San Francisco. The main subjects that will be discussed at the think tank will include Estonia’s contribution to Trans-Atlantic relations and towards promoting democracy and free-market economic policies.

Within the framework of the visit, the Head of State will visit the archive of Hoover’s Institute; meet Mr. John L. Hennessy, Rector of Stanford University, one of the most prestigious universities in the world; and also visit the university’s research laboratories.

The President will also meet Ms Condoleezza Rice, the former Secretary of State of the United States of America, and Mr. Gavin Newsom, the Mayor of San Francisco.

The President will be accompanied by a business delegation of ten members, consisting mostly of representatives of companies in the field of IT. The Head of State will return to Estonia on Tuesday, 16th June.

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