"Two families have lost sons, brothers and husbands, and Estonia has lost two brave soldiers that were fulfilling their obligation to their homeland," the Head of State said. "Our thoughts are filled with grief and our words with sympathy in memory of Sergeant Major Eerik Salmus and Sergeant Raivis Kang, the Estonian soldiers killed today in Afghanistan," President Toomas Hendrik Ilves said when he learned about the death of two members of the Defence Forces caused by the explosion of a mine in South Afghanistan.

"Two families have lost sons, brothers and husbands, and Estonia has lost two brave soldiers that were fulfilling their obligation to their homeland," the Head of State said. "Both victims were mine clearers, who were ridding Helmand Province of explosives to make it safe for ordinary Afghans to live."

"In the name of the Republic of Estonia, I express the most sincere condolences to the families of Eerik Salmus and Raivis Kang and their fellow soldiers," the President of the Republic said. "Our thoughts are with all those who are serving Estonia on dangerous foreign missions."

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