President Mr. Toomas Hendrik Ilves met today in Kadriorg with the Minister of Finance, Mr. Jürgen Ligi, who gave the Head of State an overview of the economic forecasts, to be published tomorrow, and related possible changes to the budget of 2009. President Mr. Toomas Hendrik Ilves met today in Kadriorg with the Minister of Finance, Mr. Jürgen Ligi, who gave the Head of State an overview of the economic forecasts, to be published tomorrow, and related possible changes to the budget of 2009.

"Matching expenses with income – this is currently the key issue in Estonia's state budget. The Government has to apply itself to prevent the current recession from diminishing future development opportunities, ensuring that the social security network will give the required protection to the most vulnerable members of our society, whilst keeping the important milestone of Estonia's future rise, the introduction of the euro, from becoming too blurred," said President Ilves. "I want the Government to work decisively, as a close team, to achieve this objective, treating the interests of the state as their first priority and not the short-lived political interests of the parties."

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