

The reconstruction of Kosovo and Estonia's possible assistance in this were the main topics discussed at yesterday's meeting between the President, Mr. Toomas Hendrik Ilves, and the Prime Minister of Kosovo, Mr. Hashim Thaci.

Estonia is willing to contribute to the development of a democratic, administratively capable Kosovo, characterised by an open economy, observation of human rights, and a working citizens' society within the framework of different international missions as well as bilateral projects, assured President Ilves.

In his words, it is highly important to ensure peaceful development, reduction of ethnic tensions, good relations with neighbours, and compliance with European values when building up Kosovo.

"The organisation of sustainable reforms is a long-term process, which requires determined and committed action, enhanced attention to fighting corruption and organised crime, designing a neutral and professional court system, legislation in the sphere of economy, and improving administrative capacities in general," said President Ilves. "The international community can offer some sound advice here and support Kosovo; however, Kosovo is the one who ultimately must implement and complete the reforms."

President Ilves suggested co-operation in the sphere of information and communication technology as an example, as Estonia holds expert knowledge in the sphere of the efficient implementation of government structures and e-solutions.

"The e-Governance Co-operation Memorandum, which is to be signed in Tallinn by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communication of the Republic of Estonia and Public Administration Ministry of Kosovo, provides excellent grounds for closer partnership," stated President Ilves.

Office of the President  
Public Relations Department  
Phone +372 631 6229