

“The prerequisite for permanent peace in the Middle East is the establishment of an independent and enduring Palestinian State as well as taking into account the justified security concerns of Israel,” said President Ilves. “The prerequisite for permanent peace in the Middle East is the establishment of an independent and enduring Palestinian State as well as taking into account the justified security concerns of Israel,” said President Toomas Hendrik Ilves at yesterday’s meeting with Riad Malki, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Palestinian National Authority.

According to President Ilves, Estonia is seeking closer ties with the Palestinian National Authority. “I am looking forward to meeting President Mahmoud Abbas and Prime Minister Salam Fayyad at the end of June in Ramallah,” he said.

On the same day a seminar on the e-state organised by Estonia will be opened in Ramallah in order to contribute to the development of the institutions of the Palestinian National Authority and to improve the options available to Palestine’s inhabitants in communicating with various institutions.

So far Estonia has approved two information technology projects aimed at the Palestinian National Authority. The aims of the e-Academy project are to create documentation for the Palestinian National Authority and to develop the knowledge and skills required for the introduction of the x-Way (x-tee) project there, including application of electronic identities. The second project is being implemented in cooperation with UNESCO, which is contributing to the use of information and communication technology through education administration and the study process at the request of the Palestinian Ministry of Education.

President Ilves and Foreign Affairs Minister Malki also discussed the situation in the Gaza Strip. The Estonian President reiterated the need to find a sustainable solution to end the Gaza blockade.

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