

President Toomas Hendrik Ilves met today with the Board of Directors of the recently established Baltic-American Freedom Foundation (BAFF), who introduced the President to education-related exchange programmes which have been devised for the people of the Baltic states.

President Ilves commented that the activities pursued by the Foundation serve as evidence of the strong bilateral relations between the United States of America and Estonia. "The stipends that offer our people practical training in the United States of America are an investment into the future of our country," said the Estonian Head of State.

The Baltic-America Freedom Foundation is based on the Baltic-American Enterprise Fund, which was established back in 1994. Many of the leading Americans who are participating in the BAFF Board of Directors were members of the Board of Enterprise Fund, which operated in the three Baltic states for 15 years.

"While economy-related support was particularly important 15 years ago, supporting education and offering learning opportunities are the priorities of today. I'm very pleased that the foundation was established and they can rely on my total support," President Ilves added.

For additional information please see: <http://www.BalticAmericanFreedomFoundation.org/>

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