

Fellow countrymen,

Christmas, the time of inner light, will focus our thoughts on faith and hope, as well as unity and caring.

Faith and hope give us the strength we need to cope with the personal problems that may descend on us, and also with issues related to our state and society. Strong faith and hope, supported by our competences, mean that we will overcome. Estonia will overcome.

Unity and caring, in turn, make our families, relations with our next of kin, and our country strong. All in all, these make Estonia greater.

Supporting each other means that everything is well with our families and our country and we can feel secure. We want that those in need receive the necessary help and for no one to be left without; we want that we can rely on support even in the most difficult situation. Even in times of hardship and storm, weakness and blizzard.

Difficult times give each individual, community, and sector both the opportunity and duty to show some caring and provide assistance. I would like to thank all of those who have assisted and supported, to the best of their ability, their acquaintances, neighbours, and community members.

All of this also comes down to ethical convictions, the values that help to maintain our home and state in good order. We must respect these values every day, both in our families and in our state. Families will perish, homes will collapse, and the state will weaken if there are no ethical convictions. Therefore, we do not only need to respect these values by observing them, but we must also stand for these values. This will demand the mental power, faith and hope, and trust and caring of all of us.

I wish you all a peaceful Christmas time!

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