The President, Mr. Toomas Hendrik Ilves, met in Tallinn today with the speaker of the Latvian Parliament, Ms. Solvita Aboltina, who took part here in a seminar organised to recall the passing of 90 years since the Republic of Estonia was recognised, de jure, at international level.

The Estonian Head of State and the speaker of the Latvian Parliament discussed the relations of the two countries in the period following the recession.

"We have been good allies for each other and have supported each other during these complicated times," President Ilves admitted. "I am glad that Latvia, like Estonia, has also opted for the road of conservative budgetary policies and pragmatic economic decisions, which will allow it to emerge from the crisis as soon as possible."

President Ilves also saw the restoring of transport links that connect the Baltic states with the rest of Europe as highly important.

"This must be a common goal of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania," the President said.

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