

At the meeting between the President, Mr. Toomas Hendrik Ilves, and the President of the European Council, Mr. Herman Van Rompuy, the main focus was on enhancing the competitiveness of the European Union and making the internal market more efficient.

President Ilves also highlighted the need for further reforms in the Common Agricultural Policy, where the grants available to the “old” Member States are considerably larger than those paid to most recent EU members, while the prices of agricultural equipment and fertilisers are the same for everyone on the world market.

“Estonia stands for a responsible and strong European Union, which respects the rules and financial commitments we have all accepted,” President Ilves added. “If we speak about improving competitiveness, then further reforms of the internal market and the free movement of services are, without doubt, integral parts of this.”

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