

President Toomas Hendrik Ilves met in Kadriorg today with General Ants Laaneots, who just completed his five years in office as the Commander of the Estonian Defence Forces.

The Head of State gave one of the builders of the Estonian Defence Forces an artwork by Jüri Arrak, entitled "Võitlus" (the Fight), which the artist created in 1994 to celebrate the departure of the occupying forces from Estonia.

President Ilves added his own inscription to the work: "To the Estonian officer, General Ants Laaneots, for his successful fight in restoring our Defence Forces. With gratitude and acknowledgement."

The Head of State asked General Laaneots to be an advisor on matters of national defence in the future.

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