

BNS: President Ilves, what are your comments in regard to the allegations that the Centre Party has been involved in illegal funding activities?

President Toomas Hendrik Ilves: "This serves to prove, once again, that all the means for financing political parties must be transparent, legal and regulated. Control over the financing of political parties eliminates any methods for bribing the government.

The situation we are discussing is quite unique: the head office of a parliamentary party was searched, the homes of two members of the Riigikogu were searched and they are suspected of having committed a criminal offence. I expect the State Prosecutor's Office to clarify the situation as quick as possible, and I hope that the explanation will be sufficient to help people understand what is happening and why, in the process demonstrating that state and government authorities realise that they are held accountable by the public in situations such as these. To date, the public has definitely not been sufficiently informed."

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