President Toomas Hendrik Ilves sent a letter of congratulations to Sauli Niinistö, who was yesterday elected President of Finland.

"On behalf of the Estonian people and myself – please accept warm congratulations at being elected President of Finland," wrote the Estonian Head of State.

"Estonia and Finland are closest to each other both as nations and countries, and the relations between our countries are uniquely close at practically all levels. Our nations and countries are not, however, solely linked by our origin, related languages and culture, but we are also joined by a strong wish to share common values in the European Union," President Ilves confirmed.

"I do believe that Estonia and Finland can, together and with the recent responsibility, contribute to handling the challenges that the European Union is about to face and play a part in making the Baltic Sea an inland sea of the European Union," wrote the Estonian Head of State. "I am convinced that co-operation with you will further strengthen the friendship between Estonia and Finland and offer our people new benefits and joy."

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