

President Toomas Hendrik Ilves:

The parliamentary election in Georgia on 1 October confirmed that Georgia is a democratic country and its people are free to decide which entities will gain parliamentary seats and to what extent and thus also who will form the government.

Estonia has supported and will continue supporting the European reforms in the Georgian state and the corresponding choices of the Georgian people. During my meeting in Tbilisi with Georgian ruling and opposition politicians last year I said: "Estonia is a friend of Georgia, an ally in your aspirations towards European integration, but all domestic choices, both political and economic, are up to the Georgians and no one else".

My opinion remains unchanged. I am also still certain that "dialogue" is the word that characterises the relations between the ruling forces and the opposition in European politics because in a democratic country the party that is in power today can be relegated to opposition tomorrow – and vice versa. There is one Georgia and one Georgian people and only they have the right to make decisions about their own future.

Office of the President
Public Relations Department
Phone +372 631 6229