

The Estonian President, Toomas Hendrik Ilves, and the Finnish President, Sauli Niinistö, focused on the future of the European Union at their bilateral meeting in Helsinki today, such as paying attention to e-governance and other spheres in which Estonia and Finland are characterised by strong co-operation.

"We must be capable of restoring trust between the European Union Member States, as this has key importance for the future of the European Union," told President Ilves.

President Ilves and President Niinistö discussed the economic situation of the European countries at their meeting and lingered longer upon spheres in which Estonia and Finland have strong co-operation. "Estonia and Finland should definitely strengthen our co-operation and stand for common values in spheres in which we share views. This means, above all, the responsible fiscal policy of the European Union Member States and co-operation between Estonia and Finland in the sphere of e-governance," President Ilves added.

President Ilves thanked Finland for the current effective co-operation in the sphere of e-governance. "The general goal of our e-governments is effective common economic space, and the free movement of people, goods and service," told the Estonian Head of State.

President Ilves today also visited the headquarters of the largest information security software producers in the Nordic countries, F-Secure Corporation, where the Estonian Head of State and the Development Director of F-Secure Corporation, Mikko Hyppönen, discussed issues related to cyber defence.

While in Helsinki, President Ilves will also participate in the 36th European Regional Meeting of one of the most influential non-governmental organisations, Trilateral Commission.

The Trilateral Commission was formed in 1973 by private citizens from Japan, Europe (European Union countries) and North America (United States and Canada) to foster closer cooperation among these core industrialised areas of the world with shared leadership responsibilities in the wider international system and to promote democratic values. The members of the organisation include well-known people from economic, political and research

spheres. Toomas Hendrik Ilves has also been a member of the Commission.

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