

The President, Toomas Hendrik Ilves, will today commence a working visit to the United States of America.

The Estonian Head of State will be the first to take the floor on the second day of the 68th General Assembly of the UN on 25 September. His speech in the global organisation will address the issues of Syria, human rights, Internet freedom and sustainable development. The latter is the central topic of the beginning of this General Assembly.

President Ilves will also give an opening address at an Estonian-organised high-level forum organised at the UN that will focus on "Safe and Free Internet"; a number of representatives of think tanks and the academic world will also take part in the forum.

During the General Assembly of the UN, the Estonian Head of State will meet with the President of Georgia, Mikheil Saakašvili, and will take part in a meeting focusing on the issues of Ukraine that is being led by the Polish Head of State, Bronisław Komorowski. The Ukrainian leader, Viktor Janukovič, will also be present at the event.

President Ilves will give a presentation at this year's annual conference of The Concordia Summit 2013, an organisation that is committed to co-operation between the private and public sector. This year, the conference is being dedicated to young people and the future. The Head of State will speak about co-operation between the public and private sector in promoting business and entrepreneurship.

While visiting the United States of America, the President will visit a number of universities that are part of the international elite. In Columbia University, New York, he will give a presentation about cyber security and Internet freedom. In Boston, at the economic school of one of the most reputable technological universities – Massachusetts Institute of Technology, President Ilves will share Estonia's experiences in overcoming the last financial crisis and IT development and in the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, at Tufts University, he will speak to students and professors about modern trans-Atlantic co-operation and the situation in Europe.

President Ilves will take part in an official reception held by the President of the United States of

America, Barack Obama, to celebrate the opening session of the General Assembly of the United Nations and will also hold a reception, with the Estonian Consulate, in the Estonian House, New York.

President Ilves's working visit to the United States of America will last until 28 September.

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