

"I am quite sure about one thing – the future of Georgia lies in Europe. This is why both Georgia itself and the European Union in general must take strides towards this," told the President, Toomas Hendrik Ilves, at a meeting with the Speaker of the Parliament of Georgia, David Usupashvili.

The Estonian Head of State repeated the support of his country for a quick sign-off of the Free Trade and Association Agreement between the EU and Georgia, which was initialised at the Eastern Partnership Summit in Vilnius last year, and also to establish visa-free travel between the EU and Georgia.

"This is all about the development and expansion of democracy among the neighbours of the European Union," President Ilves emphasised. "This is a part of the path that Georgia should take to move closer to the European Union."

He described the support of the Georgian population and political parties for euro integration, which is largest among the eastern neighbours of the EU, as positive.

When speaking about the internal situation in Georgia, President Ilves characterised the business-like dialogue between the parties in government and opposition as well as the continued involvement of influences outside of the parliament as important.

As for bilateral relations, President Ilves described Estonia and Georgia as good allies in Europe and on a global level, as well as being reliable partners in NATO.

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