

The President, Toomas Hendrik Ilves, will today leave for Bulgaria where, apart from a bilateral meeting with President Rosen Plevneliev, the heads of state will take part in an economic conference organised by the weekly newspaper, Capital. The President will then proceed to Switzerland, at the invitation of the organisers, to take the floor in a number of high-level discussions at the World Economic Forum, which is bringing together global economic and political leaders in Davos.

In Davos, President Ilves will take part in panel discussions that focus on economy, e-health, the development of information technology and geopolitics. The Head of State will take part in a session on the future of Ukraine with the President of the European Parliament, Martin Schulz, and high-level Ukrainian politicians. Estonia has been asked to be one of discussion leaders in sessions that focus on the competitive edge of Europe and digital infrastructure.

The Estonian Head of State will have a number of bilateral meetings within the framework of the World Economic Forum, including a meeting with Angel Gurría, Secretary General of the OECD.

The Panel on Global Internet Cooperation and Governance Mechanisms, chaired by President Ilves and summoned by Global Internet ICANN (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers), will also gather in Davos. High-level professionals from all around the world take part in the work of the panel.

The World Economic Forum (WEF) is a Swiss non-profit foundation that organises a summit every year in January, in the mountain resort in Davos in eastern Switzerland. International business leaders, top world politicians, intellectuals and journalists will meet at various events that are taking place during the forum to discuss the economic issues faced by the world.

Estonia is participating in the World Economic Forum at the level of president at the invitation of the organisers for the first time.

The Head of State will return to Estonia on Saturday night.

**President Ilves to depart on a working visit to Sofia and the World Economic Forum in Davos**

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