

Once again, an Estonian citizen has been caught up in a difficult situation in one of the most volatile and dangerous places in the world. For the second day in a row, many of our officials have been participating in an international co-operation exercise to shed some light on the fate of an Estonian sailor, who was kidnapped by pirates off the Nigerian coast.

I have full confidence in the professionalism of our officials and I do hope that the crew members of the Bourbon Liberty 249 ship who were kidnapped will be released and will soon return to their homes.

Until then, may our thoughts be with these hostages from Estonia and Russia and, of course, their next of kin, as this time of uncertainty will be the most difficult for them.

Toomas Hendrik Ilves