



Latvijas Republikas Valsts prezidenta kanceleja Prezidenta preses dienests

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Address of the State President at the 5th anniversary of the Latvian Institute

Excellencies,
ladies and gentlemen,

I am delighted to see that Latvian Institute has acquired so many good friends in five years of its existence. It has been a difficult process to get it established, running and working especially under limited financial resources. But I think the people involved in creating it, in dreaming about it, about bringing it to reality, have been following this dream about wanting Latvia to be better known in the world. Why? Because Latvia deserves it and the world deserves to know more about Latvia and they have not had a chance, they need some help to get the information that they require.

Nowadays information is available from so many sources. I as president of the Republic would like to think that I too am doing a job that is very much like the Latvian Institute, so do our diplomats who are these days gathered back here in Foreign ministry for yearly meeting, our people in sports, our artists, our businessmen and businesswomen all of them contribute to the image of Latvia. Every inhabitant of Latvia who comes in a contact with foreigner contributes to the image of Latvia. But the Latvian Institute should serve as a bridgehead, as a facilitator, and it has a role that has to be even increased in a future.

Thank you all of you, who are friends of Latvia, friends of Institute. I wish the Institute and all who work in it good health, courage and a lot of success in coming years.