

# The Presidents of Latvia and Hungary discuss the future of the EU and cooperation in the regional security

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President of Latvia Raimonds Vējonis emphasised that Latvia and Hungary shared an active and regular political dialogue that was very important for security cooperation and continuing the debate on the future of the European Union, while meeting with President of Hungary Janos Ader on Tuesday, September 19. The meeting was held at the United Nations (UN) headquarters in New York during the visit of the President of Latvia to the United States.

The President of Latvia pointed out that Latvia actively engaged in the discussions about the future of the EU as it was interested to be a part of the core of Europe. "Latvia is interested in developing the EU project based on what has already been achieved. Countries that wish to do more should be given an opportunity to work more closely together. It is important that such cooperation is open to all Member States," stated Raimonds Vējonis.

The Presidents discussed the devastating effects of climate change, the need to continue implementing of the Paris Agreement, as well as better coordination between countries that manage joint sea and river water resources.

During the conversation with the President of Hungary, they discussed security issues and cooperation between the two countries within the framework of the NATO Alliance. The President of Latvia thanked Hungary for its contribution to Latvia's security by joining the NATO-led Baltic Air Policing Mission. The President of Latvia also noted that Latvia closely followed the Russia's military exercises ZAPAD 2017, which was taking place near the borders of the Baltic States.

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