

**Basic principles of the Government coalition of
the Estonian Centre Party, the Conservative
People's Party of Estonia, and Isamaa
for 2019–2023**

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Preface

The Estonian Centre Party, the Conservative People's Party of Estonia, and Isamaa have unitedly agreed on the objective of bearing governmental responsibility based on the best interests of the state and the people of Estonia.

The coalition agreement determines the most important principles in social and educational fields, research and development, foreign and security policy, internal security, and entrepreneurship environment. It also focuses on cultural, environmental, and energy policies, the development of the e-state, governance and civil society, transport, and infrastructure; our objective is to build a state that encourages raising children, is free and secure, with cohesive society and efficient governance.

Our most important task is to ensure the preservation of the Estonian people and an independent and secure Estonia. We will develop a democratic state that is founded on the rule of law and maintains important societal values: human rights, freedom of speech, and personal freedom; that honours all people who live in Estonia, their views and opinions, and everyone's right for self-realisation. Based on the preamble of the Constitution of Estonia, we will guarantee the preservation of the Estonian people, the Estonian language, and the Estonian culture through the ages. An important pillar of our free state is involvement in international organisations.

Estonia must be a country where people want to start families and build homes; a country that welcomes back everybody who has once moved abroad. For this purpose, we will increase well-being and security, ensure the availability of public services, decrease waiting lists for health services, and reduce social inequality. National decisions will involve Estonian people more than ever and we will strengthen direct democracy. We see experts, business and civic associations, as well as political forces represented in Estonia as constructive and equal partners to the government.

We will prioritise the development of a competitive and entrepreneur-friendly economic environment and are taking steps to reduce excessive bureaucracy and administrative burdens. We will recognise all hard-working entrepreneurs and employees who improve life in Estonia and contribute to economic growth, improving the lives of each individual in every region, in the city as well as the country.

The common objective of the Estonian Centre Party, the Conservative People's Party of Estonia, and Isamaa is to represent all Estonian people. In the coming four years that have been

trusted to us, we will base our decisions on the challenges that Estonia is facing as well as the current needs of our country and people without burdening the coalition agreement with excessive details and rhetoric.

1. Foreign and security policy

- We will enhance a cohesive, caring, and tolerant society whose members feel secure and involved in societal affairs.
- We strictly disapprove all indications of hostility between nations, antisemitism, and rhetoric that divides the society.
- We will base foreign and security political decisions on the national interests of Estonia, national sovereignty, and international law, following international agreements and principles of the UN.
- We will implement an independent and consistent foreign and security policy, mainly through our involvement in the European Union and NATO. We believe that unity and cooperation between the European Union and NATO is important for Estonia. We see the European Union as a union of states, not a federal state.
- We will prioritise the development of open economic relations as well as continuing and promoting global free and fair foreign trading.
- We consider it important to continue developing strategic relations with the United States of America, the Nordic countries, and the Baltic states.
- We want to maintain close partnership relations with the United Kingdom, even after they leave the European Union.
- We will support the enhancement of security, stability, and good neighbourly relations in the whole region, including with Russia.
- We will prioritise a close cooperation with the Eastern Partnership countries of the European Union. Estonia supports the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine.
- We consider it important to support our enterprises in foreign countries.
- We will support comprehensive national defence, developing an independent defence capacity, strengthening the collective defence of NATO, and fostering cybersecurity in cooperation with our allies. We will strengthen the regional security political cooperation with Poland and the Baltic states.
- We will support maintaining compulsory military service, increasing the number of young people who engage in the military service, developing the capabilities of the Defence League, and increasing its membership.

- We will contribute at least 2% of the GDP to national defence, plus expenses for accommodating allies and additional resources for reducing gaps in capability. We will support the Estonian defence industry and increasing its export capabilities.
- We will support strengthening the NATO deterrence strategy and the continued military presence of allies.

2. Internal security

Public order and fighting crime

- We will ensure an equal and efficient defence of fundamental rights and freedoms for all people.
- We will decrease employee turnover in the Police and Border Guard Board, the Estonian Rescue Board, and the prison service.
- Our objective is to raise wages in the internal security field.
- We will increase communal responsibilities and opportunities for ensuring security; for this purpose, we will support the law enforcement units of local governments and adjust legislation in accordance with the actual need for improving the work quality and authorities of law enforcement units and assistant police officers. We will also create opportunities to involve security companies in guaranteeing communal security.
- We will prioritise fighting severe offences against the person, domestic violence, and sexual crimes aimed particularly at children. We will create a register of sex offenders, including paedophiles.
- We will restrict juvenile delinquency and improve cooperation between authorities and societal organisations who specialise in the protection of minors.
- We will pay more attention to explaining and fighting threats arising from the cyber environment.
- We will develop digital proceedings, the capabilities of video and surveillance systems, the web police, and use of body cameras.
- We will prevent, impede, and discover corruption, financial crimes, and money laundering, and develop the capabilities of confiscating criminal earnings.
- We will monitor violence that is occurring in Europe as well as the proliferation of radical views and increased migration that affect our security. We will secure the preparedness of police forces and their abilities to react at any given time.
- We will impede hostile lobbying towards Estonia.
- We will improve road safety and road culture with the purpose of decreasing the number of traffic accidents as well as the number of the deceased or injured in such accidents.
- We must give more support to crime victims and impose efficient punishments on criminals. All criminally acquired assets must be confiscated and directed to helping the victims.

- We will develop security restrictions around defence objects. We will establish object-based ownership restrictions of national defence and security properties.
- We will maintain control over the Estonian immigration policy. We do not accept mandatory refugee quotas. We will turn extra attention to monitoring the people who stay in Estonia illegally.

The rescue field

- We will support a comprehensive prevention of accidents. We will annually decrease the number of the deceased in fire and water accidents.
- Our objective is to raise the wages of rescue workers.
- We will renew rescue technology and equipment. We will support giving used but functioning rescue equipment to voluntary rescue workers.
- We will guarantee the continuity of vital services and fast liquidation of the consequences of emergencies.
- We will increase the competence of schools for creating a secure learning environment and conduct regular fire and crisis training.
- We will develop maritime surveillance to ensure meeting the requirements of both internal and external security.
- We will develop the capabilities of maritime rescue and pollution control.
- We will give proper recognition to voluntary assistant police officers and rescue workers who ensure the safety of our communities.
- We will implement the principles defined in the concept of civil protection.
- We will increase the role of the Rescue Board in organising civil protection at the levels of local communities and local governments.

Guarding and protecting the state border

- We will prioritise and foster the guarding and protection of the state border.
- We will continue to build Estonia's eastern border. We will ensure yearly maintenance of the established border. We will enhance the reaction capabilities of cordons and border crossing points. Consequently, we will restrict illegal immigration and illicit traffic at the state border.

- We will also improve impeding illegal immigration on the northern and southern borders.
- Estonia will continue to contribute to fighting against terrorism and human trafficking as well as strengthening the protection of our state border and guarding the external border of the European Union and NATO.
- We will fight against illegal immigration and the abuse of visas and residence permits to guarantee public order, prevent crime, and maintain national security. We will increase the capabilities of migration control.
- We will create a special structural border guard unit with a separate budget at the Police and Border Guard Board, providing them with relevant armament and other equipment.
- We will improve the border guard education at the Estonian Academy of Security Sciences.
- We will create a crisis reserve of the police and border guard that can be used for both guarding the border and law enforcement.

3. Governance and civil society

- We will support an extensive reduction of bureaucracy and administrative burdens in governance and in communicating with public authorities for private persons as well as enterprises. We will decrease the capacity of the public sector.
- We will continue and enhance the zero-bureaucracy project.
- We will make the national reform of 2019–2023 one of our political priorities.
- We will establish the content and dates of the national reform in the government action plan and adopt relevant resolutions of the *Riigikogu*.
- We will appoint a specific member of the Government as the responsible person for implementing the national reform and secure the necessary arrangements.
- We will enhance the opportunities for remote working in the public and private sectors.
- We will appoint officials based on their professional competency and will not tolerate the politicisation of public service.
- We will implement a comprehensive review of the state budget, determining all sources of income and expenses of the state and considering their purposefulness.
- We will increase transparency and reduce the principles that require information being for internal use only.
- We will evaluate the public interest on major projects and involve independent specialists, external experts, and representatives of the civil society.
- We will maintain the principles of the language policy. We will stand for a wider use of the Estonian language all over Estonia.
- We will develop the e-state to enable electronic communication of people and entrepreneurs with the state in all fields.
- We will implement a so-called one-door solution, where the state will only ask for personal information once and cross-use it in databases.
- We will support informing the public more extensively on societal subjects and terminate the prohibition of political outdoor advertising.
- We will involve the civil society in developing legislative drafting to ensure a comprehensive and transparent decision-making process.
- We will continue to support the repressed and their representative organisations.

- We will enhance the partnership between the state and the citizen sector in developing supportive measures and exchanging information.
- We will strengthen parliamentary democracy and increase the competency of the *Riigikogu*.
- We will review the Riigikogu Election Act with the purpose of, among other things, harmonising the distribution of mandates among electoral districts.
- We will maintain e-elections, but the system must be supervised, safe, and transparent.
- We consider a further analysis of the e-elections system and an independent international audit necessary. Based on the analysis, we will implement the necessary changes in the election system.
- We will regulate the determination of electronic voting results at a legislative level under the adjudication of the Supreme Court.

Citizenship policy

- The principles of the citizenship and language policy will not be changed.
- If a person who has pledged loyalty to the Republic of Estonia commits a terrorist crime or treason, they will lose the Estonian citizenship under a court judgment.
- The coalition will not legalise dual citizenship.
- We will maintain a simplified procedure for granting citizenship to the disabled.
- No one may be deprived of an Estonian citizenship acquired by birth.
- We believe that no one may be deprived of an Estonian citizenship if it is revealed in retrospect that the person who acted in good faith obtained citizenship because of a state error.
- We will solve the legal confusion regarding the citizenship of Abkhazian Estonians.
- We will organise a national proficiency examination in civics and citizenship education, equalised with the citizenship examination, at the end of basic school to all who are interested. We will also organise an Estonian language final examination (including for Estonian as a second language). In the case of passing both examinations with positive results, a person can apply for an Estonian citizenship if they also comply with the legal requirements.
- We will offer free Estonian courses and paid study leave for the purpose of studying Estonian to all who apply for an Estonian citizenship.

- Permanent residents of the Republic of Estonia who have been born in Estonia and are underage descendants (children and grandchildren) of persons who resided in Estonia as of 20 August 1991 and were permanent residents of Estonia with an undefined citizenship or third-country nationals, can apply for an Estonian citizenship obtained through naturalisation if the parents of the child or a single parent raising the child alone or, upon attaining the age of majority, the child him- or herself submits an application for the renunciation of the citizenship of the third country. We will pass relevant amendments to law by 1 January 2020.

4. The rule of law and direct democracy

- We will stand for the rule of law. We will support professional and independent administration of justice and preserving the current network of courthouses. We will promote appointing judges who have comprehensive experience in the legal field and support the rotation, specialisation, and regular mandatory training of judges.
- We will improve prevention of human trafficking and focus more on ensuring the rights of victims in proceedings.
- We will increase the availability and quality of free legal counselling and legal aid, focusing on more vulnerable social groups.
- We will reasonably apply the European Union law while avoiding over-regulation.
- We will preserve the procedural independence of the Prosecutor's Office and courts.
- We will accelerate criminal proceedings, ensuring among other things that issues of significant public interest are proceeded quickly and efficiently. Both pre-trial procedures and judicial proceedings must be conducted within a reasonable period and terminated if this requirement is violated.
- In the interests of efficiency, we will reform the enforcement system with the purpose of establishing a fair and proportional enforcement procedure, a more effective enforcement of claims, and cost-efficiency for participants in proceedings.
- We will implement the use of lay judges in criminal proceedings to be chosen from among citizens by drawing lots and consider involving lay judges in certain civil proceedings such as family law.
- For the purpose of holding officials responsible for their actions, we will review the State Liability Act, laying down among other things the liability of the state for damages caused by administration of justice, providing compensation for proved violation of a substantial procedural process.
- We will appoint a select committee of the *Riigikogu* to exercise parliamentary supervision over the Prosecutor's Office, similar to parliamentary supervision over security authorities.
- We will create an opportunity to appoint special prosecutors in the Prosecutor's Office for a specified term to proceed prioritised issues. We will ensure that special prosecutors are independent in their proceedings. The select committee of the *Riigikogu* may submit proposals to the Prosecutor General to appoint a special prosecutor.

Referendums and citizen initiatives

- We will initiate a constitutional amendment to legalise citizen initiatives and expand referendums.
- A citizen initiative requires signatures of 25,000 citizens. The legal form of citizen initiatives is a draft act, not a draft resolution. Draft acts initiated by citizens must be submitted to the *Riigikogu* for a final vote.
- Referendums can be initiated by people with signatures of at least 50,000 citizens.
- If a draft act submitted to a referendum does not receive the majority of votes, it will not result in extraordinary elections of the *Riigikogu*.
- An issue submitted to a referendum is deemed adopted if at least fifty per cent of the citizens with the right to vote take part in the referendum and the draft act or another national issue receives at least 5% more votes in favour than against.
- Amending the constitution with a referendum requires at least 25% more votes in favour than against.
- The same issue cannot be re-submitted to a referendum for at least three years.
- The basic principles of the Constitution of the Republic of Estonia and issues related to the national budget, taxes, financial obligations of the state, ratification and denunciation of international agreements, declaring and terminating a state of emergency, and national defence cannot be submitted to a referendum.

5. Local affairs and regional policy

- We will continue to arrange the Estonian administrative division and the status of administrative units.
- We will support strengthening collaboration between local governments of a county to unitedly carry out assignments and plan development.
- We will ensure an equal availability of schools in rural areas, kindergartens, medical aid, operational rescue services and police, a fast internet connection, and other public services all over Estonia.
- We will support the importance of communal movements, including that of village elders, in shaping local life.
- We will motivate local governments to promote entrepreneurship.
- We will simplify assigning land to local governments with the purpose of enhancing entrepreneurship.
- We will arrange legislation to ensure access to immovables.
- We will increase the budgetary independence of local governments and enhance their freedom to decide over intended use of public funds.
- We will give additional assignments to local governments that they can fulfil more efficiently and also increase the revenue base accordingly.
- We will review the Local Government Organisation Act.
- We will promote returning to rural areas.
- We will increase the availability and quality of priority services in communities of small islands to ensure the necessary living conditions for island residents.
- We will increase investment support and surety for housing loans and business investment loans in rural areas.
- We will transfer one state authority or public enterprise from Tallinn to each county seat. Our objective is to transfer 1,000 professional positions outside of Tallinn in four years.
- We will continue with regional programmes and fix the state of villages in Estonian rural areas. We will prioritise restoring broken and old buildings, finding a function for them, or demolishing them.

6. Rural affairs, agriculture, and fisheries

- We will ensure that Estonian farmers and food producers are equally competitive in the European Union. We will promote equalising direct aid, pay transitional aid to our farmers, and continue with the payments of animal breeding support.
- We will stand for financing the Estonian Rural Development Plan over the next budget period of the European Union.
- We will secure Estonian self-sufficiency for basic food products.
- We will ensure equal treatment to all farmers, regardless of their capacity or specialisation. We will support a reasonable balance between standard and organic farming.
- We will prohibit the production of genetically modified organisms in Estonia (not including laboratory and scientific research).
- We will support the development of farmsteads, including family farms and traditional Estonian farms.
- We will continue supporting young farmers. We will develop complementary measures to support generation renewal and transferring farms from parents to their descendants.
- We will continue developing local beekeeping and paying national aid for bee colonies.
- We will support establishing and developing farmers' cooperatives for producing, processing, and selling their produce.
- We will guarantee credit opportunities. It is important to enhance the risk management of agricultural establishments and make available the credit that is necessary for their development.
- We will cooperate with manufacturers to develop risk management measures.
- We will find opportunities to regulate the sales of land and forest. Local manufacturers are preferred in selling and renting arable land and forest land.
- We will promote the continuous use of valuable arable land for agricultural parcels and less valuable arable land for developing other bio-economy.
- We will increase stable financing for agricultural sciences.
- We will ensure a stable development of the farm advisory system, contributing budgetary resources upon necessity.
- We will enhance fair trading practices. We will stand for a well-functioning supply chain, impeding unfair trading practices, and the correct labelling of food products.

- We will prioritise diversifying economic activities in rural areas and creating positions with competitive pay through the LEADER measures.
- We value the Estonian food culture and characteristics of each region.
- We will promote the export of Estonian food, creating and enforcing a positive image of our food sector, and expanding to new target markets.
- We will support the sustainability of local fisheries and maintaining jobs in the fishing sector through different measures.
- We will support a stable system of fishing rights, a high-quality overview of the current state of fish resources, and an efficient supervision over the use of fish resources.
- We will support developing laws, rules, and opportunities necessary for fish farming on the open sea.
- We will support the diversification of activities of fish businesses that provides a year-round income for fishermen.
- We will review the restrictions related to the use of fiscal-marked fuels.

7. Healthcare

- We will stand for a solidary healthcare model and its development.
- We will improve the availability of medical aid and decrease waiting lists.
- We will implement a healthcare financing reform with the purpose of improving the use of resources and offer people more high-quality services:
 - a) we will improve the availability of initial healthcare and the technical level of family doctors;
 - b) we will consider removing temporary incapacity for work benefit from the health insurance fund;
 - c) we will develop a model for diagnose-based financing of medical cases;
 - d) we will analyse the prices and components of medical services.
- We will contribute to a functioning family doctor system to reduce the burden of emergency rooms and medical specialists.
- We will ensure that consultations are available in family health centres even in evenings and at weekends.
- We will maintain county hospitals and establish new health centres. We will guarantee that medical aid is available for people near their homes, considering regional policies.
- We will improve the prevention and treatment of substance abuse and alcoholism. We consider it important to establish mandatory rehabilitation programmes for violent criminals who are addicts.
- We will ensure equal treatment for service providers who are financed under the health insurance fund.
- We will accelerate the implementation of digital referrals, electronic consultations, digital registers, and other digital solutions.
- We will start evolving personal health platforms that help people collect and analyse their health data as well as form healthy habits. We will implement a health plan agreed with a family doctor for each adult.
- We will analyse opportunities to expand the availability of healthcare services for people without health insurance.
- We will prioritise regular monitoring of the health state of children and young people, focusing on reducing obesity, substance abuse, and mental health problems.

- We will increase the resources for disease prevention.
- We will create necessary systems to educate people on mental health issues, prevent accumulation of problems, and start treatment in time.
- We will review the procedure of dental care benefits and bind the benefit with patients. Special focus is on prophylaxis and the dental care of young people.
- We will expand consultation programmes for informed family planning, the birth of healthy children, health protection of mothers, and reducing the number of abortions.
- We will cooperate with social partners to evolve the principles of occupational injury and disease insurance.
- We will expand social guarantees, especially health insurance, for creative positions.

8. Social security

- We will involve the elderly through elderly councils in discussions over issues of societal importance.
- We will continue establishing senior service houses that ensure welfare and consumer services for the elderly.
- Our objective is an extraordinary rise of pensions to increase the subsistence and wellbeing of the elderly.
- We will establish national principles for paying caregiver's allowance.
- We will make the system of proving a permanent disability easier and more humane.
- We will increase the availability of nursing services at home as well as in nursing homes.
- Our objective is to improve the availability of equipment for people with special needs.
- We will expand educational opportunities for disabled children and young people.
- We will modernise the organisation and financing of services as well as support for people with special needs.
- We will create rules that clearly establish the maximum level of own contribution for paying for social services, following the principle that domestic services should cost less than admitting a person to a nursing home.
- We will improve intersectoral access to the living environment.
- We will continue to collaborate with local governments to improve the living environment of people with intellectual disorders and develop respective services (including round-the-clock).
- We will initiate innovative solutions to support domestic coping and care.
- We will establish a suitable Estonian voluntary collaboration model in the welfare field.
- We will ensure that all dependent disabled young people have a place to go after the end of school.
- We will increase the capacity, selection, and quality of domestic social services (including caretaking).
- We will increase opportunities for rehabilitation and therapy.
- We will focus more on initial and advanced training for specialists working in the field of long-term nursing.

- We will continue to develop and modernise the services and nursing homes for more complicated target groups (e.g. people with dementia or an autism spectrum disorder) who need care.
- We will continue to update the database for tenants living in restituted living spaces and the repressed; we will analyse potential solutions in cooperation with local governments, the Estonian Tenants Union, the Estonian Memento Association, and the Central Union of Estonian Property Owners.

The second pension pillar reform

- We will maintain the second pension pillar and the services it offers.
- We will review the management fees of pension funds, the procedure for disbursements from the second pillar when a person reaches retirement age, and the conditions for entering into and terminating insurance contracts.
- We will not amend the procedure for joining the funded pension system; people who are obligated to join the system pursuant to the law in force will continue to be automatically included in the system.
- We will consider fostering the opportunities of employers to accrue pension for employees.

We will pass amendments to law by 1 January 2020, according to which:

- People who have joined or will join the second pension pillar have the right to exit the second pillar by submitting an application. People who have chosen to exit are treated equally to those who never joined. For this purpose, we will establish the conditions of and procedure for disbursement. Disbursements from the second pillar pension funds are made within two years of submitting the application and income tax is paid on the disbursements.
- People who continue to save in the second pension pillar have the right to submit an application to transfer the payments made into the second pillar (2% + 4%) to a personal investment account rather than the second pillar fund.
- Assets accrued in the second pension pillar can be transferred to an investment account. Disbursements from the second pillar funds to an investment account are made within two years of submitting the application, on the same dates established for changing the funds.
- Assets can be collected from investment accounts at all times. Income tax must be paid upon collecting the assets.

- We will expand the possibilities of using an investment account.
- People who have not joined the second pillar system or have chosen to exit the system have the right to (re)join.

9. Education and research policy

Research and higher education

- Our objective is to increase the state financing for research and development to at least 1% of the GDP. We consider it important for the private sector to increase investments in research and development.
- We will allocate some of the financing for research and development to be used as co-financing for entrepreneurs who order services from research institutions or engage in research and development personally. We will motivate researchers and research institutions to contribute to near-market product and technology development.
- We will involve the representatives of the Estonian Academy of Sciences in addressing important national issues.
- We will maximise Estonia's involvement in global research centres, applying collaboration between the private sector and the field of research and education.
- We will promote the development of research in the Estonian language, research on Estonian-related issues, and research that serves the interests of the state and society through respective research financing and evaluation systems.
- We will prioritise evolving national research as the basis for our national identity. We will support and develop scientific research on Estonian contemporary history.
- We will guarantee competitive wages for teaching staff and a free, high-quality education in the Estonian language for students (not including cooperation networks, common curricula, student exchange, collaboration projects etc. that are based on international agreements). Our purpose with the extra financing for higher education is to maintain the proportion of higher education in Estonian.
- We will continue with the programme of Estonian higher education courseware.
- We will analyse the establishment of a state-guaranteed student loan system where a student is not obligated to repay the loan at the end of their studies if they work in Estonia for at least five years.
- We will create better opportunities to involve students with special needs (including people with hearing impairment or the visually impaired) in higher education and vocational training.
- Our objective is to establish a doctoral salary.

- We will develop lifelong learning and the role of adult education centres in organising complementary training for adults.
- We will address the issue of training sign language interpreters.

Kindergarten, basic, and secondary education

- We will value the work of kindergarten teachers. We will collaborate with local governments to raise the wages of kindergarten teachers.
- Our objective is to continue raising the wages of teachers and recognise their work.
- We will organise IT training for teachers and combine the curricula more intensely with IT solutions in homework as well as schoolwork.
- We will ensure professional counselling for teachers, incorporating general pedagogy, psychology, and approaching students with special educational needs.
- We will increase the common element in vocational and general education, expand freedom to choose in the education system, and improve the reputation of vocational education. We will offer competitive education and professional skills for young people to succeed on the labour market.
- We will ensure the preservation of schools in rural areas.
- We will support expanded freedom of choice for schools and reduce the proportion of mandatory subjects in the curricula.
- We will make every effort to make kindergartens, basic schools, secondary schools, and vocational education institutions safe and free of bullying. We will improve the behavioural norms and etiquette on social media to reduce virtual bullying.
- We will ensure diversity in the school network. For this purpose, we will guarantee equal financial opportunities to educate students for public, municipal, and private schools.
- We will promote the physical habits of students as an integral part of a healthy lifestyle. For this purpose, we will collaborate with the state, local governments, educational institutions, parents, and the private sector.
- We will improve the cooperation between healthcare, social, and educational fields to ensure the availability and quality of support services that are necessary for children, regardless of the place of residence or special educational needs of the child.
- We will establish a programme in schools to improve IT training and integrate IT training into the national curriculum. We will expand robotics and programming courses in schools.

- We will support chess clubs in schools by purchasing the necessary equipment and foster developing various intellectual games.
- We will support a wider establishment of religious studies as an elective course.
- We will review the organisation of secondary school education.
- We will arrange the conditions for graduating from basic school and secondary school.
- We will enable at least secondary education or vocational qualification for each student.

Estonian language

- We will develop the activities of Estonian language houses and opportunities for learning Estonian.
- We will improve the possibilities of Estonian language houses in consulting and supporting parents to improve and complement their Estonian language, education, language immersion, and other Estonian skills.
- We will increase opportunities for learning and applying Estonian on the internet and smart devices. We will create a smart application for free Estonian studies that can be used in Estonia as well as globally for acquiring the Estonian language.
- We will support Estonian studies in foreign schools that educate children of Estonian communities. We will expand widely available digital courseware in Estonian as well as for learning Estonian.
- We will guarantee high-level Estonian studies in kindergartens and schools. Special focus is on preparing and motivating a sufficient number of teachers. We will implement an additional salary coefficient for fostering studies in Estonian.
- We consider it important to apply modern methods and teaching aids in kindergartens and schools for developing Estonian skills. Our objective is for all school-leavers to speak Estonian freely, be able to continue their studies in Estonian higher education institutions, and be competitive on the labour market.
- We will create an Estonian education development plan that enables children to continue their studies in Estonian.
- We will establish a study committee with the *Riigikogu* to address the issues of Estonian studies and development.

- We will continue with the current pilot programme, allowing a pedagogically reasonable flexibility in establishing language and subject teaching in certain multilingual secondary schools along with enhanced Estonian studies.
- We will preserve and renew the independent Estonian educational institution in Kohtla-Järve.

10. Culture, sports, and youth work

- We will preserve and develop the Estonian language as our constitutional value and obligation.
- We will expand the opportunities for children for visiting theatres, museums, and concerts on a regular basis.
- We will support the continuous tradition of Estonian song and dance festivals, valuing the work of choirmasters and dance instructors. We will continue state support programmes to guarantee the preservation of Estonian folk culture.
- Our objective is to raise the salary of cultural workers with higher education.
- We will value the importance of churches and congregations in evolving local cultural life.
- We will support the renovation of Estonian historical and cultural objects of national importance, including sacral buildings, and update the requirements for heritage conservation.
- We will initiate the Global Estonia programme to activate and involve international Estonian communities. We will support introducing and spreading Estonian national culture in the world, as well as preserving, developing, and researching the Estonian language and culture by involving our communities abroad and goodwill ambassadors.
- We will support the societal importance of public libraries and create the necessary conditions to modernise their operation and create a stronger synergy with the dissemination of information and other fields of cultural and recreational activities.
- We will continue with the digitalisation of cultural heritage, museum collections, and archives as well as making them available in digital form.
- We will establish a solution that considers the interests of creative persons and the society to modernise the so-called blank cassette charge system.
- We will expand the possibilities of creative establishments, including for creative (and film) industries, along with national measures that support product development, export, and marketing.
- We consider patronage to be important; we will promote sponsorship and involving more private capital in creating and developing culture.

- We will support the export and internationalisation of creative fields in culture. We will support attracting the international film industry in Estonia and creating a respective infrastructure.
- We will support Estonian cinematography and the audio-visual industry.
- We will expand the accessibility of arts. For this purpose, we will implement a gallery programme to create the necessary conditions for exhibiting Estonian art outside larger cities.

Sports

- We will collaborate with local governments and the private sector to renovate and expand the network of national sports facilities. We will support local governments in establishing the network of light traffic and foot traffic roads and constructing year-round sports grounds, including indoor football halls.
- We will stand for the principles of fair game, and fight against previously agreed games and performance-enhancing drugs.
- Each child should be active for at least 60 minutes a day. We will support exercise as an integral part of the school programme and will continue elementary swimming courses.
- We will support talented young athletes and their coaches.
- We consider it important to carry on the Team Estonia programme of the Estonian Olympic Committee.
- We will continue with the national programme of supporting coaches and referees.
- We will establish a national support programme for sports for people with a disability, improving the chances of both amateurs and athletes to train and participate in domestic as well as international competitions.
- We will support organising international championships in Estonia.

Youth

- We will prioritise a higher involvement of young people in governance issues.
- We will support youth organisations and enhancing the role of youth councils and youth associations.

- We will recognise informal education as part of personal development and the education system, giving access to high-quality extracurricular education. We value skills acquired through voluntary work.
- We will support organisations that provide patriotic education for young people.
- We will expand the chances for children to participate in summer camps and student work camps.
- We will support the opportunities of disabled young people to be involved in hobby groups, activities of youth centres, and other youth-oriented activities.
- We will support young people in entering the labour market. We will prioritise preventive action to decrease the number of young people not in education, employment, or training (NEET).

11. Cohesive society and population

Families and the population

- We will ensure that young families and families with many children have better chances to receive a loan for buying or restoring their homes, applying a state surety bond without the compulsory self-financing. We will update the criteria and sums of money for the KredEx housing support for families with many children.
- We will continue with the measures to support the housing stock investments of local governments.
- Our objective is to increase basic exemption considering the number of children in a family.
- We will establish an institution with the purpose of counselling families and individuals who return home from abroad to enhance getting accustomed to Estonian arrangements, finding a place for living, a job, and a school for children, as well as addressing other practical issues.
- We will ensure an efficient system of state maintenance allowances that guarantees maintenance allowance for single parents who do not receive maintenance support.
- We will fight domestic violence, analyse current procedural practices, and develop more efficient measures, including with law amendments.
- We will collaborate with local governments to ensure that there is at least one child welfare worker per 1,000 children in each local government.
- The best solution for families is the equal contribution of both parents to raising children and the opportunity of parents to receive support and information on parenting.
- We will enhance programmes and services that support parenting, including foster families.
- We will develop services to detect children's problems, including mental health issues, early.
- Among other national issues, we will conduct a referendum on the proposal to amend the Constitution to define marriage as a union between a man and a woman. The vote on this issue will be implemented in 2021, concurrently with the elections of municipal councils.
- In the event of a positive result of the referendum, we will pass the amendment to the Constitution to define marriage as a union of a man and a woman.
- Political parties of this coalition do not have a common position on repealing or implementing the Registered Partnership Act.

- We will establish a study committee with the *Riigikogu* to address the issues of population crisis.

Ethnic minorities

- We will ensure possibilities for developing individual national cultures with the freedom to integrate into the Estonian national culture for all ethnic groups in Estonia.
- We will continue supporting the cultural associations and Sunday schools of ethnic minorities.
- We will develop a training system that includes Estonian courses for various professions and areas of activity.
- We will raise awareness of the Russian-speaking population on the local legal environment and provide them with state legal aid.
- We will more actively inform other linguistic populations of the possibilities of employment in the public sector.
- We will diversify and develop the integration policy. We will support integration with Estonian society and culture.

12. Economy, entrepreneurship, and taxes

Economy, finance, and the labour market

- We will give private investors a chance to invest in companies that currently belong to the state. For this purpose, we will sell holdings in those state companies that are of no strategic interest to the state.
 - AS Eesti Teed (100% sale)
 - AS Operail (up to 49% sale)
- For the purpose of developing the capital market and improving the management of state enterprises, we will bring minority shareholdings of certain state companies to the stock market, considering the principles of public shares, for example Enefit Green (up to 49%).
- We will not transfer strategic companies that operate in non-competitive fields and whose transfer might increase security risks or jeopardise the provision of vital services.
- We will review the real estate policy of the state as an owner.
- We will stand for an internationally renowned good and competitive business environment.
- We prefer a budget policy that is based on the rules of structural balance.
- We will develop the Estonian capital market to ensure that good investments receive suitable financing from a bank, a stock exchange, crowdfunding, or direct investments.
- We consider clean environment, clean air, and clean water a competitive advantage of Estonia in marketing and exporting tourism, clean food, natural cosmetics, and pharmacy products as well as tourism services.
- We will increase the attractiveness of Estonia as a tourism destination while also promoting domestic tourism.
- Our objective is to improve the potential for Estonian economic growth and the efficiency of the public sector.
- We will continue developing and supporting industrial parks to create opportunities for establishing regional value chains.
- We will value the Estonian transit sector and its competitiveness.
- We will refine Estonian raw materials domestically and create jobs with high added value all over Estonia. We will support a balanced development of forestry.

- We will offer production input for energy-intensive businesses to increase their competitiveness.
- We will continue to reduce the administrative burden and bureaucracy of entrepreneurs. We will apply the principle of a single request for collecting data.
- We will expand opportunities for using investment accounts to enable people to invest in a higher variety of asset classes.
- We will promote choosing innovative solutions and following the principle of social responsibility in public procurements.
- We consider it important that Estonia gains a modern centre of international conference tourism in collaboration with the private and public sectors.
- We will support Estonian enterprises' participation in the Dubai EXPO to increase the export and recognition of our services and products in that region.
- We will value entrepreneurs who engage in export. For this purpose, we will expand the diplomatic representations of Estonia and increase the number of economic diplomats and advisors abroad.
- We will expand opportunities for retraining, complementary training, and adult education to increase employment.
- We will consider amending the Employment Contracts Act and mitigating requirements to promote youth employment.
- We consider it important to regulate and control temporary workforce more thoroughly.
- We will prefer Estonians who have returned over foreign workforce and implement national measures to involve passive people in employment.
- We will follow a strict immigration policy that benefits Estonian economy and society. We will improve control over illegal immigration and review the exceptions of the immigration quota that are currently abused.
- We will elaborate the organisation of strikes and negotiations with the purpose of improving the regulation of rights and obligations of employees as well as employers. We will determine legal conciliation dates and fields of restricted right to strike.
- We will continue to organise trilateral meetings with the Estonian Trade Union Confederation and the Estonian Employers' Confederation on issues regarding the labour market.

Tax policy

- We will continue the project of bringing vessels under the Estonian flag; we will create the necessary tax differences and offer shore-side sector services of higher quality.
- We will develop trends for improving the image of Estonia as a maritime state. We will analyse the necessity of a national maritime reform.
- We will analyse opportunities to implement land tax exemptions for homeowners on land with complex intended purpose.
- We will analyse different opportunities, including tax policy amendments, national investments, regional programmes, etc., to ensure a balanced development in the whole territory of Estonia.
- We will decrease network charges of electricity and renewable energy fees.
- We will analyse possibilities for increasing the number of consumers who can use a discount on electricity and gas excise duty.
- We will address the issue of double-taxation on pension of the Estonian elderly who have earned their income abroad.
- We will analyse opportunities to reduce the social tax burden for part-time employees.
- We will analyse the establishment of lower value-added tax rate on e-books and online magazines.
- Our objective is to bring tax revenues back to Estonia and restrict border trading by lowering excise duties.

13. E-state and information society

- We will develop Estonian e-services, the eesti.ee environment, and national IT solutions even further by making the services more proactive. We will make the e-state mobile-friendly.
- We will reduce the burden of submitting data to the state. For this purpose, we will follow the principle of single entry of data when we develop the e-services to reduce the time spent by citizens on communicating with the state.
- We will also promote the secure and anonymous use by the private sector of data collected by the state and state enterprises.
- We will ensure the protection of personal data. We will guarantee the protection of sensitive personal data submitted to the public sector (including the health care system) and a chance for people to monitor the use of their data.
- We will support the export of IT solutions created for the state.
- We will continue with international cooperation to fight cyberattacks and raise public awareness about cybersecurity.
- We will make the Estonian business environment more attractive to e-residents, considering the principles of the e-residency 2.0 programme. We will cooperate with the private sector to solve the bottlenecks of the e-residency programme.
- We will ensure the use of the Estonian language in digital space. We will support software development to use Estonian in addition to English.
- We will implement a national digital programme to digitalise Estonian intellectual creation.
- We will create a free smart application for learning Estonian that can be used in Estonia as well as globally.
- We will support the digitalisation of the economy. We consider a wider implementation of information technological solutions an important measure for increasing productivity and efficiency of the whole economy, offering relevant training and information in the education system, as well as supporting field-specific competence centres, clusters, etc.
- We will support automating manually prepared databases, reports, and other similar activities in state authorities and local governments to increase the efficiency of work.
- We will support the implementation of new innovative solutions, making sure that the state does not impede innovation.

- We will support developing legislation necessary to implement self-driving cars, as well as creating a suitable and safe traffic environment for this purpose.
- We will prioritise a comprehensive development of digital skills for adults to increase the productivity and competitiveness of our people under the conditions of a fast-developing economy and labour market.
- We will value IT and engineer training at all educational levels.
- In addition to fast connections on air, land, and sea, we also need fast data communication connections. We will continue to develop a direct connection of ultrafast internet.

14. Transport and infrastructure

- We will prepare large-scale projects of infrastructure investments to implement them sustainably regardless of the economic conjuncture.
- Our objective is to make gravel roads of significant use dust-free by 2030.
- Our objective is to make the main highways (Tallinn-Tartu, Tallinn-Narva, Tallinn-Pärnu) four-lane highways. We will analyse additional financing opportunities.
- We will develop convenient and fast railway connections from the capital to Paldiski, Tartu, Narva, Pärnu, Viljandi, Rohuküla, Koidula, and Valga, combining them more efficiently with other means of transport.
- We will cooperate with Latvia to find opportunities for establishing a fast railway connection on the Tallinn-Tartu-Riga line.
- We will support research and analyses concerning the Tallinn-Helsinki tunnel.
- We will continue to support the establishment of light traffic roads. We will promote the use of bicycles through developing a light traffic infrastructure. We will support local governments in creating and implementing bicycle strategies.
- We will develop a high-quality public transport network all over Estonia and stand for public transport that complies with the actual needs of local people. Our objective is to establish a reasonable transport organisation that complies with the needs of people, ensures the accessibility of transport services, and considers regional differences.
- We will continue developing public transport in counties and have set the objective to ensure resources that enable public transport centres to apply free public transport and ensure freedom in using resources for public transport centres in all counties. All line kilometres of public regular services will be financed on equal basis in all counties, regardless of the ticket system favoured by the public transport centre.
- We consider it important to have a high-quality and convenient international air connection with Estonia.
- We will guarantee a high-quality and convenient air connection from Tallinn to Hiiumaa and Saaremaa.
- We will continue with the operations of current regional airports.
- We will continue with the development programme of marinas, including for developing marinas on the coasts of the Väinameri Sea, the Gulf of Finland, and Lake Peipsi.

- We will guarantee a high-quality ferry connection between the mainland and larger islands. We will continue to periodically deepen the Rukkirahu Channel to ensure a ferry connection with Hiiumaa.
- We will initiate a national designated spatial plan to map the opportunities of establishing the Bridge of Saaremaa, considering the opinions of the local community.
- If the expected 81% co-financing for the Rail Baltic project is not provided in the next budget period of the European Union, we will review the profitability, the route, the schedule, and local stations of the project. Until then, we will also continue with the activities that support the Estonian infrastructure more widely.

15. Environment and energetics

Environment

- We will renew the forestry development plan, considering the solutions to forestry problems provided by researchers of the field, and establishing the range of prescribed cutting volumes in collaboration with various parties.
- We will support re-forestation, renewal of forests, and pre-growing forest flora.
- We will use a tax system to encourage small forest owners to manage their own forests, instead of selling them.
- We will ensure that land with restrictions of natural protection is bought out within a reasonable period of time.
- We will support the refinement of wood by decreasing the export of wood as raw material. We will support the forestry programme of the Environmental Investment Centre aimed at developing small wood industries, wood associations based on domestic capital and versatile wood processing opportunities.
- We will make Estonian economy a competitive economy with low carbon emission by the middle of the century, considering the basic principles of the climate policy.
- We will continue national research of natural resources and ensure the geological base mapping of Estonia over the next ten years.
- We will evolve and implement programmes to make homes, public buildings, technical facilities, and transport more energy-saving.
- We will expand programmes that ensure the availability of clean drinking water even in regions with a lower pollution load.
- We will motivate waste producers to sort their waste, which is cheaper than the collection of mixed municipal waste. We will reduce the use of single-use plastic.
- We will support the increasing use of waste as a resource.
- We will renew the hunting development plan and a control plan for large predators.
- We will maintain the population of fish at the level of maximum productivity and ensure the natural recovery of fish resources.
- We will involve local governments in achieving environmental goals.

- We will support allocating a proportion of environmental charges to local governments who suffer most from air pollution, waste generation, and other negative effects on the environment that accompany the implementation of natural resources.

Energetics

- We will increase the proportion of renewable energy in producing electricity and heat as well as consuming vehicle fuels. We also consider it important to efficiently co-generate heat and electricity.
- We will prioritise finding solutions for reconciling the objectives of renewable energy and the interests of national defence.
- We will reduce electricity generation dependence on oil shale, basing the use of oil shale on international agreements and established environmental norms.
- We will reduce subsidies and national intervention by continuously replacing renewable energy aid with market-based emissions trading.
- We will synchronise the Estonian electricity system with the electricity system of the European Union countries to increase energy security.
- We will finish establishing the Balticconnector along with creating the common Baltic-Finnish gas market by 2020.
- A regional LNG terminal must be established in Estonia to ensure energy security and security of supply.
- We will continue using oil shale as the primary energetic mineral resource of Estonia in an efficient manner with low environmental burden until market demand remains.
- We will offer the necessary security for the oil shale sector by predictable regulation of mining, mining right charges, environmental charges, and taxes to enable them to invest in oil production.
- We will initiate a feasibility study and establishment of a pre-refining plant in Ida-Viru County that is necessary for developing the oil industry, involving all interested Estonian oil producers as investors.
- We will promote a more extensive use of domestic biomethane, other gas fuels, and electricity for transport to reduce the amount of unhealthy emissions in cities.
- We will support a more extensive use of biomass, including agricultural biomass and organic waste, in circular economy and energy production.

- We consider it important to refine domestic biomass (including wood) domestically to the maximum extent to create additional jobs particularly in rural areas.
- We will support the off-grid electric solution project in rural areas.
- We will continue to renew street lighting to reduce administrative expenses and save energy.
- We will continue with renovation aid programmes for apartment buildings and small residential buildings and supporting resource-efficient investments of enterprises.