



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Valentin Hajdinjak
Minister of Defence
Republic of Slovenia

Dear Valentin

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

During this period, my guiding principle has been simple: we must act decisively, not hesitate. As a result, Estonia's defence spending has increased from two to more than five percent of GDP, we have significantly strengthened our military capabilities, close to doubled our armed forces; invested in ammunition, new weapons systems; developed air defence, coastal defence, indirect fire and drone capabilities and together with our Allies, established the Estonian Division.

Leadership, however, also means responsibility. Recent observations by Estonia's State Audit Office concerning the accounting of stocks within the Defence Forces and an ammunition acquisition for Ukraine, where the contractual partner failed to fulfil its obligations, have raised the question of political responsibility. While a minister does not conduct the day-to-day accounting of stocks nor negotiate procurement contracts, the minister ultimately bears responsibility for the defence sector as a whole.

I have therefore decided to take the political responsibility and resign as the Minister of Defence from next week.

I do so with a clear conscience and full confidence that we have made the right strategic choices for Estonian, European and Ukrainian security and defence.

Estonia's commitment to European and transatlantic security will remain unwavering and above all, we will continue our steadfast support to Ukraine. Ukrainians are fighting not only for their own freedom and territorial integrity, but also for the security of Europe. Europe must neither tire nor hesitate in supporting them and must continue to find ways to support the Ukrainians. Even if it comes with risks.

Thank you sincerely for your cooperation, trust and friendship over these years. It has been a privilege to work alongside you in strengthening our common security.

So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

Her Excellency
Ms Margarita Robles
Minister of Defence
Kingdom of Spain

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

Dear Margarita

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

During this period, my guiding principle has been simple: we must act decisively, not hesitate. As a result, Estonia's defence spending has increased from two to more than five percent of GDP, we have significantly strengthened our military capabilities, close to doubled our armed forces; invested in ammunition, new weapons systems; developed air defence, coastal defence, indirect fire and drone capabilities and together with our Allies, established the Estonian Division.

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Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Pål Jonson
Minister for Defence
Kingdom of Sweden

Dear Pål

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

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Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Yaşar Güler
Minister of National Defence
Republic of Türkiye

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

Dear Yaşar

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

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Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

Mr Mark Rutte
Secretary General
North Atlantic Treaty Organization

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

Dear Mark

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Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

Ms Kaja Kallas
High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and
Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission
European Commission

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

Dear Kaja

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Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

Mr Andrius Kubilius
European Commissioner for Defence and Space
European Commission

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

Dear Andrius

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Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

Her Excellency
Ms Helen McEntee
Minister for Foreign Affairs, Trade and Defence
Republic of Ireland

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

Dear Helen

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Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Guido Crosetto
Minister of Defence
Italian Republic

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

Dear Guido

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

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Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Raivis Melnis
Minister of Defence
Republic of Latvia

Dear Raivis

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

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So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Robertas Kaunas
Minister of National Defence
Republic of Lithuania

Dear Robertas

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

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Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

Her Excellency
Ms Yuriko Backes
Minister of Defence
Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

Dear Yuriko

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

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So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Glenn Bedingfield
Minister for Home Affairs and Security
Republic of Malta

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

Dear Glenn

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

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Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Dragan Krapović
Minister of Defence
Montenegro

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

Dear Dragan

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Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

Her Excellency
Ms Dilan Yeşilgöz-Zegerius
Minister of Defence
Kingdom of the Netherlands

Dear Dilan

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

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Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Vlado Misajlovski
Minister of Defence
Republic of North Macedonia

Dear Vlado

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

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Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Tore O. Sandvik
Minister of Defence
Kingdom of Norway

Dear Tore

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Leadership, however, also means responsibility. Recent observations by Estonia's State Audit Office concerning the accounting of stocks within the Defence Forces and an ammunition acquisition for Ukraine, where the contractual partner failed to fulfil its obligations, have raised the question of political responsibility. While a minister does not conduct the day-to-day accounting of stocks nor negotiate procurement contracts, the minister ultimately bears responsibility for the defence sector as a whole.

I have therefore decided to take the political responsibility and resign as the Minister of Defence from next week.

I do so with a clear conscience and full confidence that we have made the right strategic choices for Estonian, European and Ukrainian security and defence.

Estonia's commitment to European and transatlantic security will remain unwavering and above all, we will continue our steadfast support to Ukraine. Ukrainians are fighting not only for their own freedom and territorial integrity, but also for the security of Europe. Europe must neither tire nor hesitate in supporting them and must continue to find ways to support the Ukrainians. Even if it comes with risks.

Thank you sincerely for your cooperation, trust and friendship over these years. It has been a privilege to work alongside you in strengthening our common security.

So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Władysław Kosiniak-Kamysz
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence
Republic of Poland

Dear Władysław

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

During this period, my guiding principle has been simple: we must act decisively, not hesitate. As a result, Estonia's defence spending has increased from two to more than five percent of GDP, we have significantly strengthened our military capabilities, close to doubled our armed forces; invested in ammunition, new weapons systems; developed air defence, coastal defence, indirect fire and drone capabilities and together with our Allies, established the Estonian Division.

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Estonia's commitment to European and transatlantic security will remain unwavering and above all, we will continue our steadfast support to Ukraine. Ukrainians are fighting not only for their own freedom and territorial integrity, but also for the security of Europe. Europe must neither tire nor hesitate in supporting them and must continue to find ways to support the Ukrainians. Even if it comes with risks.

Thank you sincerely for your cooperation, trust and friendship over these years. It has been a privilege to work alongside you in strengthening our common security.

So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Nuno Melo
Minister of National Defence
Portuguese Republic

Dear Nuno

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

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Thank you sincerely for your cooperation, trust and friendship over these years. It has been a privilege to work alongside you in strengthening our common security.

So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Radu-Dinel Miruță
Minister of National Defence
Romania

Dear Radu

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

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So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Robert Kaliňák
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence
Slovak Republic

Dear Robert

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

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So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Vasilis Palmas
Minister of Defence
Republic of Cyprus

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

Dear Vasilis

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

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So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Jaromír Zůna
Minister of Defence
Czech Republic

Dear Jaromir

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

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Thank you sincerely for your cooperation, trust and friendship over these years. It has been a privilege to work alongside you in strengthening our common security.

So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Jeppe Bruus Christensen
Minister of Defence
Kingdom of Denmark

Dear Jeppe

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

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Thank you sincerely for your cooperation, trust and friendship over these years. It has been a privilege to work alongside you in strengthening our common security.

So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Antti Häkkinen
Minister of Defence
Republic of Finland

Dear Antti:

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

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Thank you sincerely for your cooperation, trust and friendship over these years. It has been a privilege to work alongside you in strengthening our common security.

So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Nikos Dendias
Minister of National Defence
Hellenic Republic

Dear Nikos

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

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Thank you sincerely for your cooperation, trust and friendship over these years. It has been a privilege to work alongside you in strengthening our common security.

So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Romulusz Ruszin-Szendi
Minister of Defence
Hungary

Dear Romulusz

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

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So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

Her Excellency
Ms Þorgerður Katrín Gunnarsdóttir
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Republic of Iceland

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

Dear Katrin

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

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Thank you sincerely for your cooperation, trust and friendship over these years. It has been a privilege to work alongside you in strengthening our common security.

So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Ermal Nufi
Minister of Defence
Republic of Albania

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

Dear Ermal

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

During this period, my guiding principle has been simple: we must act decisively, not hesitate. As a result, Estonia's defence spending has increased from two to more than five percent of GDP, we have significantly strengthened our military capabilities, close to doubled our armed forces; invested in ammunition, new weapons systems; developed air defence, coastal defence, indirect fire and drone capabilities and together with our Allies, established the Estonian Division.

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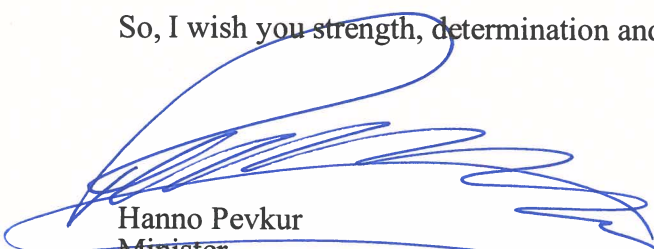
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So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.



Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

Her Excellency
Ms Klaudia Tanner
Federal Minister of Defence
Republic of Austria

Dear Klaudia

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

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Thank you sincerely for your cooperation, trust and friendship over these years. It has been a privilege to work alongside you in strengthening our common security.

So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Theo Francken
Minister of Defence
Kingdom of Belgium

Dear Theo

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

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Thank you sincerely for your cooperation, trust and friendship over these years. It has been a privilege to work alongside you in strengthening our common security.

So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

His Excellency
Mr Dimitar Stoyanov
Minister of Defence
Republic of Bulgaria

Dear Dimitar

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

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Thank you sincerely for your cooperation, trust and friendship over these years. It has been a privilege to work alongside you in strengthening our common security.

So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

The Honourable
Mr David J. McGuinty
Minister of National Defence
Canada

Dear David

09.09.2026 no 9-7/26/194

For more than four years, I have had the honour of serving the Estonian people as the Minister of Defence. I have also been privileged to work with you to support Ukraine and strengthen European security. These extraordinary years have required us to act with determination, speed and responsibility.

During this period, my guiding principle has been simple: we must act decisively, not hesitate. As a result, Estonia's defence spending has increased from two to more than five percent of GDP, we have significantly strengthened our military capabilities, close to doubled our armed forces; invested in ammunition, new weapons systems; developed air defence, coastal defence, indirect fire and drone capabilities and together with our Allies, established the Estonian Division.

Leadership, however, also means responsibility. Recent observations by Estonia's State Audit Office concerning the accounting of stocks within the Defence Forces and an ammunition acquisition for Ukraine, where the contractual partner failed to fulfil its obligations, have raised the question of political responsibility. While a minister does not conduct the day-to-day accounting of stocks nor negotiate procurement contracts, the minister ultimately bears responsibility for the defence sector as a whole.

I have therefore decided to take the political responsibility and resign as the Minister of Defence from next week.

I do so with a clear conscience and full confidence that we have made the right strategic choices for Estonian, European and Ukrainian security and defence.

Estonia's commitment to European and transatlantic security will remain unwavering and above all, we will continue our steadfast support to Ukraine. Ukrainians are fighting not only for their own freedom and territorial integrity, but also for the security of Europe. Europe must neither tire nor hesitate in supporting them and must continue to find ways to support the Ukrainians. Even if it comes with risks.

Thank you sincerely for your cooperation, trust and friendship over these years. It has been a privilege to work alongside you in strengthening our common security.

So, I wish you strength, determination and every success in carrying this responsibility forward.

Hanno Pevkur
Minister