

## **Bettering Knowledge about the Estonian State among Russian Compulsory Students**

The project consisted of three different active student seminars arranged for seven teams from Ida-Virumaa county Russian schools. The teams were formed of four students and their teacher of Civics.

The aim of the project was to better the understanding and knowledge about Estonian state and society among the Russian school students. To enter the project each school-team prepared a presentation about the most serious problems they observe in Estonian life, which should be solved on the Government level.

The first meeting of students took place on November 13 2004 in training centre Essu in Lääne-Virumaa. Together was chosen the common problem of forthcoming introducing of Estonian language studies in Russian schools gymnasium level to be represented to Riigikogu (Estonian Parliament).

The second meeting took place on November 22 2004 in Riigikogu, where two MP-s met the students, listened their report and participated in lively discussion about the future of Russian language gymnasium education in Estonia.

The third meeting was held in one of Estonia's local governments - Aegviidy county, where the students got acquainted with the everyday life routine of Estonian countryside people - just for comparison in which ways does the daily life of Russians and Estonians differ.