

Foreign Policy Synthesis and Debates

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Republic of Moldova's relations with Ukraine, Russia, Romania: developments and prospects

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The Main Topics of the Broadcast:

1. **The current situation on Palanca dossier**
2. **Republic of Moldova's relations with Russia: stopping the shipment of Moldovan wine**
3. **Opening of Romanian consulates in Balti and Cahul**

Corneliu RUSNAC, moderator Imedia: *Good day dear listeners. I am Corneliu Rusnac and I invite you to a new broadcast of discussions on topics of foreign policy, produced with the support of the „Foreign Policy Association” and financed by „Friedrich Ebert” Foundation.*

In today's show I would like to present you a discussion with *Mr. Andrei Popov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration*. In today's discussion we shall cover issues regarding Republic of Moldova's relations with Ukraine, Russia and Romania. So, lately discussions about part of the Odessa-Reni road, crossing Republic of Moldova near the village of Palanca, Stefan Voda district, have once again caught the attention of public opinion. Although joint expert groups appear to have reached an agreement on Palanca dossier, certain political forces in Kiev, said that the deal would prejudice the interests of Ukraine and even called for creating a special commission in the Ukrainian Rada. I asked Mr. Andrei Popov what is currently the exact situation of the road near Palanca, the land underneath which was to be transferred into the property of Ukraine, according to the border treaty signed between Chisinau and Kiev in 1999 and ratified and promulgated in summer 2001.

1. The current situation on Palanca dossier

Andrei POPOV, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova: We are witnessing a paradox. While some political forces seeking to exploit the situation and to accuse the Government of Moldova of certain alleged concessions, of negotiating with Ukraine on bedded knees, Ukrainian politicians, Ukrainian opposition toughly accuses the Ukrainian government in Kiev that it did not take steps to defend Ukraine's interests and has poorly negotiated the Border Agreement. There are voices; members of parliament initiating bills on withdrawal from the Border Treaty, which, in the opinion of those members is seriously prejudicial to the interests of Kiev. What is it about, we should finally make it clear once and for all. In 1999 Moldova and Ukraine reached a compromise that was rather complicated, but in essence very advantageous, we have to admit, to Republic of Moldova's strategic interests, because as a result of this compromise a package agreement

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