

Nine O'clock – 15.03.2012

## **Romania wants European standards for Romanians in Ukraine, solution to Bystroe**



Romania wants European standards for the Romanian minority in Ukraine, the opening of the Romanian Cultural Institute in Ukraine, the Bystroe Canal (photo) issue to be solved in line with international environment laws and the local border traffic agreement to be finalized, Secretary of State Bogdan Aurescu stated yesterday at the opening of a Romanian – Ukrainian stamp exhibition dedicated to 20 years of bilateral relations. “There is a real desire to give more substance, more positive amplitude to this relationship, as well as openness towards a new chapter in this relationship. (...) The substance of the bilateral agenda and our joint ambition will allow us to solve those aspects yet to be solved. We want European standards for the Romanian minority in Ukraine, similar to those shown for Ukrainians in Romania, we want a permanent cultural presence in Ukraine through the opening of a Romanian Cultural Institute, we want the Bystroe Canal issue to be solved in line with international environment laws, we want to finalize the agreement on local border traffic. We want to amplify economic cooperation and trade,” Aurescu stated, being quoted by Mediafax. At the same time he offered assurances that Romania will continue to be “among the top supporters of Ukraine’s accession.” On the other hand, Viorel Kotyk, Ukraine’s charge d’affaires to Bucharest, stated that Bucharest and Kiev have attained their goals during the 20 years of diplomatic relations. “The most important event during that time was the signing of the Basic Treaty, the Treaty on Good Neighborliness and Collaboration,” he said.