



**INTERNATIONAL ROMANI
UNION**
Office of the President of IRU
Normunds Rudevičs



Address: Doma laukums 8a, RIGA, LV-1050
Phone/Fax: +371 67554222
Mob.phone: +371 27771814
e-mail: normunds.rudevics@gmail.com
www.irtu2020.com

To: All Roma activists and members of international Roma organisations, to whom it may concern.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT of IRU

Date: 23.08.2016

Dear brothers and sisters,

It is with great sadness that we inform you of an untimely passing of our dear friend and colleague Mr. Valery Novoselsky.

Valery came to Riga to take part in the parliamentary session of International Romani Union, the conference of Roma Seniors, and was invited to see the Roma World Festival. On the 19th of August, apparently due to a heavy depression and personal circumstances, he took his own life. It is a great tragedy for all of us, the wide Roma community, and devastating news to his mother. She is about to be informed officially today by the Israeli authorities.

As for now, we do not know when and where Valery will be put to rest, as it depends on the decision of his relatives.

We ask all who knew Valery to be tactful and patient, as more information will be provided by the authorities.

May his soul rest in peace!

With kindest regards

Dr. Normunds Rudevics

The President of the International Romani Union