Dr. Dimitra Mangoura, Professor-Investigator A and Vice Director of the Basic Research Center, received her MD from the University of Athens and her Ph.D. in Neurobiology from the University of Colorado, Denver, USA and the University of Athens. Under the auspices of a National Institute of Health (NIH) fellowship and then a National Individual Research Award also from NIH, she completed her postdoctoral studies at the University of Chicago, Chicago, USA, on phosphorylation-dependent, opiate signaling mechanisms in neural cells. In 1994, she joined the Faculty of Pediatrics at The University of Chicago, and in 1997 the Faculty in the Committees of Neurobiology and of Cell Physiology. In 2002 she was recruited at the newly established Biomedical Research Foundation of the Academy of Athens as the Director of the Center for Neurosciences. Dr. Mangoura has led an internationally recognized program on mechanism of differentiation of developing neurons and astrocytes, funded by NIH and other USA foundations and more recently by European Union (EU) and Greek national agencies. Her academic work includes both mentoring many graduate and postgraduate students, and postdoctoral fellows, and teaching in Medical Schools, graduate and undergraduate programs in USA and graduate programs in Greek Universities. Dr. Mangoura has served as a reviewer in NIH Study Sections and continues to be a member of evaluation rosters for the European Union and other countries, as well as serving in editorial boards. She served as a Statutes and Bylaws Officer for ASN, was the Chair of the Organizing Committee for the ISN Athens Meeting in 2011 and served as an ISN Council Member and Chair of the Schools Initiative Committee (2013-2017). Committed to continue her contributions to strengthen interactive international research and training of young scientists in neurochemistry as a member of ESN and a member of the ESN Council, she organized the 1st Advanced School in September 2021 and will organize the upcoming 3rd School in 2024.