

23rd ISN BIENNIAL MEETING

Athens, Greece
26-31 August 2011



Dear Colleagues,

It is my great pleasure and privilege to invite on behalf of all Greek Neurochemists and Neuroscientists our colleagues of the International Society of Neurochemistry to attend the 23rd Meeting in Athens, Greece in 2011. In sharing the commitment of ISN to facilitate the advancement of neurochemistry and neuroscience discipline worldwide, the Hellenic Pharmacological, Biochemical and Molecular Biology, Neurology, and Psychiatry communities will also strongly support the ISN meeting.

The Meeting Venue will be the Megaron Athens International Conference Center (www.megaron.gr), an architectural achievement on its own merit, which offers a unique combination of exceptional aesthetics and cutting edge technology. Conveniently located in the Center of Athens, it is within walking distance from many hotels, restaurants, cafes, museums, and archaeological sites. It has its own direct entrance to the new metro and visitors can travel across Athens within minutes, just ten to Acropolis or thirty directly to the new airport "El. Venizelos". Athens has always been an attractive site for congresses and meetings, because of its geographical location right between East and West, North and South, its mild climate, and all the excitement a city of 3000 years of continuous life and evolution has to offer.

The participating scientists and students will be offered a wonderful experience in Athens, a city of capital importance for the development of human thought since antiquity, yet a modern European metropolis. New and extensive framework of urban innovations for hosting the Summer 2004 Olympics include an award-winning international airport, fast and timely underground train, suburban rail networks, new highways, new environmentally-friendly buses, trolleys. Athens is a safe city in which our colleagues will enjoy endless possibilities for sightseeing, cultural events for any taste, walks through captivating areas where the new meets the old culture, healthy eating, swimming or sailing in nearby sandy beaches and ports.

Education is the most highly regarded value by all Greeks, reflected here in the strong support we have received from The Academy of Arts and Sciences, the University of Athens, The Mayor of the City, and all the Councils of scientific societies with interests related to neurochemistry. The strong sponsorship of the Public and Private Sector is also reflected in the substantial support that has been pledged for the Meeting.

As citizens of the international scientific community and as Athenians we look forward to welcoming you at the 23rd Biennial Meeting of the Society here in Athens!

*Dimitra Mangoura, MD, Ph.D.
Professor and Director, Neurosciences Center
Biomedical Research Foundation
Chair, ISN 2011 Organizing Committee*

General Information

Climate

Athens enjoys a warm Mediterranean climate, ample sunshine, and its trademark blue skies for about 320 days per year. The average temperature, during late August ranges from 22° to 28° Celsius.

Currency

The currency of Greece is the Euro (€). All major credit cards are widely accepted in Greece.

Language

Modern Greek is the official language. Most Greeks speak English as well as French and German.

Health

Emergency treatment is free of charge to all Greeks or foreigners, in University hospitals.

Visa information

Greece follows the Schengen Agreement for citizens of all countries applying the Schengen acquis plus associated countries who enter with any valid I.D. card. Holders of regular passports from the rest of the world need a visa in order to enter Greece.

Getting to Athens

Athens is easily accessible from most destinations around the world. The new Athens International Airport, Eleftherios Venizelos, is dedicated to customer satisfaction and provides high security standard. Public transportation to Athens is provided by express airport bus connections on a 24-hour basis, taxis, and a direct Metro line to the city center in 40 minutes.

Airport to city center: Bus €3.20 (Express line), Metro €6, Taxi €23-28

City centre to Congress Venue: Bus €0.50, Metro €0.80, Taxi €2-5

General Facilities at Megaron

All of the Megaron function spaces and halls are handicap accessible, have dedicated cloakrooms, wash rooms, and 750 parking spaces. Having hosted a considerable number of the world's high profile figures, a 24-hour full time security staff is maintained on all grounds.

Average Hotel Room Rates (include buffet breakfast and taxes)

5 Star hotels: Euro 180/195 (single/double)

4 Star hotels: Euro 130/150 (single/double)

3 Star hotels: Euro 80/100 (single/double)

Student Hotel Accommodation along the metro line: Euro 50

Pre & Post ISN Conference Satellite Meetings

Island of Spetses (Spetsai) and the Spetses Summer School (<http://2spetses.com/>); Delphi; Island of Naxos(<http://www.naxos-island-greece.com/>); City of Chania, Crete (<http://www.chaniacrete.gr/>)

On site conference tours

Acropolis; Parthenon; Odeon of Herodes Atticus; Olympic Stadiums: Panathinaikon Stadium 1896 and OAKA 2004; National Archaeological Museum of Athens; Museum of Cycladic Art; Benaki Museum; National Gallery of Athens; Sunset visit at the Temple of Poseidon at Cape Sounion.

Pre & Post congress tours

Olympia; Mycenae; Island of Santorini (<http://www.visit-santorini.com/>); Island of Mykonos

Eating

Gourmet and traditional Greek cuisine, based on organic Mediterranean ingredients, such as olive oil and fresh fish, has become one of the most popular in the world as it has been proven to provide a flavourful healthy and balanced diet.

Proposed Budget in US Dollars, \$

REGISTRATIONS	Fees	Expected Participation	Income [(Fees x Attendance)+ sponsorship] = expenses + 10% surplus*
ISN Members	400	500	
Non-members	450	150	
Students	220	220	
Accompanying persons	150	50	
EXHIBITION			
Booth sales/sponsors	350/sq.m.		
EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION & PASSES			
Full registration	650	8	
Partial registration	325	8	
One day pass	180	10	

Notes*

1. Sponsorship: Hellenic Society for Neuroscience € 12,500, Government € 20,000, Other sponsors (AC&C portfolio, pharmaceuticals etc) € 30,000
2. AC&C professional congress organizers guarantee this profit with these participation figures

Delegates (Members, non Members, and Students): conference bag with pen & block including all conference material, invitations for Opening Ceremony and Reception (Ancient Agora by Acropolis), Gala dinner (at a seaside venue), coffee break coupons (8 in total), lunch coupons (4 in total), attendance of scientific program sessions and congress exhibition. **Accompanying persons:** includes welcome reception, gala dinner, Acropolis & Athens city tour.

Exhibitors: full registration includes scientific sessions, opening ceremony, gala dinner, lunches, and coffee breaks; **partial registration** includes opening ceremony, entrance to the Exhibition, coffee/lunch breaks and **one day pass** to the Exhibition includes lunch and coffee breaks.

Local Organizing Committee

Elias Angelopoulos, M.D., Ph.D. Associate Professor, Dept of Psychiatry Medical School, University of Athens

Epaminondas Doxakis, Ph.D., M.B.A. Assistant Professor Biomedical Research Foundation of the Athens Academy

Spiros Efthimiopoulos, Ph.D. President of the Hellenic Society for Neuroscience, Associate Professor, School of Biology University of Athens

Emmanuel Frangoulis, Ph.D. Professor and Chair, School of Biochemistry Univ. of Athens

Iro Georgoussi, Ph.D. Senior Investigator, National Centre for Scientific Research "Democritos", Athens

Klimentini Karageorgiou, M.D., Ph.D. Director of Neurology, Athens General Hospital

Michael Koutsilieris, M.D., Ph.D. Professor and Chair, Department of Physiology, Medical School, University of Athens

Rebecca Matsas, Ph.D Professor, Neurosciences Center Hellenic Pasteur Institute, Athens

Anastasios Orologas, M.D., Ph.D. Professor and Chair, Neurology, University of Crete

Andreas Plaitakis, M.D., Ph.D. Professor and Chair, Neurology, University of Salonica

Nikos Sakellaridis, M.D., Ph.D. Professor and Chair, Pharmacology University of Thessaly

Leonidas Stefanis, M.D., Ph.D. Associate Professor, Neurology, Med. School, Univ. of Athens

Fotini Stylianopoulou Ph.D. Professor, Department of Basic Sciences, University of Athens

Kostas Vekrellis, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, Biomedical Research Foundation of the Athens Academy