

Dr Stella Psarra is a Biologist-Oceanographer, Research Director at the Institute of Oceanography, HCMR. She is an expert in phytoplankton ecology and their ecophysiological adaptations in oligotrophic ecosystems, with emphasis in planktonic interactions in the ultra-oligotrophic Eastern Mediterranean. Her research interests involve primary productivity and phytoplankton diversity and their connections to the biogeochemical cycles and ecosystem functioning (nutrient limitation, ocean acidification, dust deposition, climate change), tested with microcosm/mesocosm experiments and field campaigns. She has over 28 years of research experience with over 40 (mostly EU and few national) research programs. Over the last decade she has been actively involved in the establishment of the marine bio-optics group in HCMR, focusing in bio-optical studies in the Aegean Sea and the E. Mediterranean. She has supervised postgraduate students (5 MSc, 3 PhD, 3 post-docs, several interns). She is (co)author of 62 peer-reviewed scientific publications and of over 90 presentations in international/Greek congresses while she serves as a reviewer in several peer reviewed journals and as Guest reviewer in *Frontiers in Marine Science*.