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Maria Gravari-Barbas has a degree in Architecture and Urban Design (University of Athens, 1985) and a PhD in Geography and Planning (Paris IV – Sorbonne, 1991). She was a Fellow at the Urban Program of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA (1990). She is the Director of the EIREST, a multidisciplinary research team dedicated to tourism studies, primarily focusing on cultural heritage, development, and urban tourism evolutions. Since 2009, she has been the director of the UNESCO Chair of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University and the coordinator of the UNITWIN network 'Tourism, Culture, Development'. She is the Chair of the Self-Steering Committee of Cultural Heritage of Una Europa and the Chair of the Joint Doctoral Committee of Una Europa, which coordinates the Doctoral programme of Una Europa (Una-Her-Doc). She has authored several heritage, culture, tourism, and urban planning books. Tourism and architectural simulacra, Routledge, (2021); Tourism Dynamics in Everyday Places: Before and After Tourism, Routledge, 2021; research Agenda for Heritage Tourism, Elgar (2020), Le patrimoine mondial, Mise en tourisme, mise en images, L'Harmattan (2020), Lieux ordinaires, avant et après le tourisme, PUCA (2018), Tourism and Gentrification in Contemporary Metropolises. International Perspectives, Routledge (2017), World Heritage Sites and Tourism. Global and Local Relations, Routledge (2017).