*Possibilities for a global governance of nanotechnology*
*(Plenary session 2)*

**Mihail C. Roco**

Dr. Mihail C. Roco is the Senior Advisor for Nanotechnology at the National Science Foundation (NSF) and key architect of the National Nanotechnology Initiative. He chairs the Nanotechnology Group of the International Risk Governance Council. Dr. Roco is credited with 13 patents and has contributed over two hundred articles and fifteen books, including 'Nanotechnology: Societal Implications – Maximizing Benefits to Humanity' (Springer Science, November 2006), significantly advancing the body of literature in the field. Dr. Roco coordinated the preparation of the U.S. National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) reports on 'Nanotechnology Research Directions' (NSTC, 1999) and the 'National Nanotechnology Initiative' (NSTC, 2000). Under his stewardship the nanotechnology federal investment has increased from about $3 million in 1991 to $1.3 billion in 2005/2006. Prior to joining the National Science Foundation, he was a Professor of Mechanical Engineering. His research included experimental and simulation methods to investigate nanoparticles and nanosystems. He is the Editor-in-chief of the Journal of Nanoparticle Research. Dr. Roco is a Correspondent Member of the Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences, Fellow of ASME, Fellow of AIChE, and Fellow of Institute of Physics. Forbes magazine recognized him in 2003 as first among 'Nanotechnology's Power Brokers' and Scientific American named him one of 2004's top 50 Technology Leaders. In 2005, he received the AIChE Forum award 'for leadership and service to the national science and engineering community through initiating and bringing to fruition the National Nanotechnology Initiative.' He is a member of several honorary boards and was elected Engineer of the Year by the U.S. Society of Professional Engineers and NSF in 1999 and again in 2004.