
Symposium TA-2
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Natural conflict resolution in humans

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In the last 10 years an idea about solid natural basis of conflict resolution in humans has been intensively debated. In this symposium we would like to bring together various studies conducted on conflict management in humans and emphasize the importance of interdisciplinary approaches, based on combination of observational methods, various interviewing techniques and laboratory physiological methods. We would also like to discuss a progress in empirical and theoretical issues, particularly to demonstrate new perspectives in exploring the mechanisms for controlling aggression in humans. Cross-cultural data on children and adolescents involved in aggression and post-conflict interactions, as well as data on third parties behaviour in the process of conflict management will be presented by research teams from Russia, Netherlands, Sweden, Japan, and the USA, and discussed in broader perspective. The first author will link the work on children to the work on nonhuman primates and will offer a theoretical perspective on the primate roots of moral development. In addition, two authors will discuss pre-conflict behaviour in relation to conflict causes, as well as relations between different aggressive patterns and conflict-resolution, for both aggressive and normal children. Also, an author will highlight the hormonal basis of post-conflict interaction showing the stress-reduction efficiency of post-conflict reunion. Finally, one of the authors will focus on social-cognitive and interpersonal mechanisms that may elicit goal modifications during attempts to resolve hypothetical conflicts with a peer.