

Special Issue

The Role of Consciousness in Coupling Emotions, Motivations, and Behaviors

Message from the Guest Editors

Emerging within the long-lasting debate concerning the nature and definition of consciousness is a growing need to deepen its role in coupling emotions, motivations, and behaviors. While some authors theorize that these constructs are merely different sides of the same coin, others consider them as different ends of a continuum or as results of processes that are typically—but not necessarily—correlated: in both cases, consciousness is thought to play a potentially different role for each construct. This debate directly affects how emotions, motivations, and behaviors are assessed and how the resulting data are interpreted and described.

This leads to methodological and terminological confusion mining robustness and reliability of the resulting theoretical frameworks. This Special Issue is main to thus reach a deeper understanding of the basic mechanisms underlying the role of consciousness in coupling emotions, motivations and behaviors, and practical applications. New empirical data addressing these points are welcomed, as are novel discussions of previously published results in the form of meta-analyses, systematic reviews, and perspective articles.

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