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MAIN THEME: SECURITY AND SOCIETY EVOLVING CHALLENGES AND COMPREHENSIVE RESPONSES

ABSTRACT

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Psychological Consequences of Terrorist Attacks. Emotional and Behavioural Reactions of Adults and Children

Terrorist attacks aim at creating fear among the population. Terrorist attacks therefore lead to anxiety and insecurity in the directly affected population. These emotional reactions may go far beyond the primary (victims) and secondary affected groups (helpers, relatives). If you compare these events with other traumatic events such as natural disasters several similarities and differences stand out. In our research project we analyse the short and long-term effects of terrorist attacks compared to natural disasters. We focus on the following questions: Which are the most effective strategies of psychological intervention after terrorist attacks/natural disasters? How can resilience be promoted in the affected groups? How can extreme reactions of various groups be prevented? Based on literature review and interviews with experts and victims these questions will be analysed.