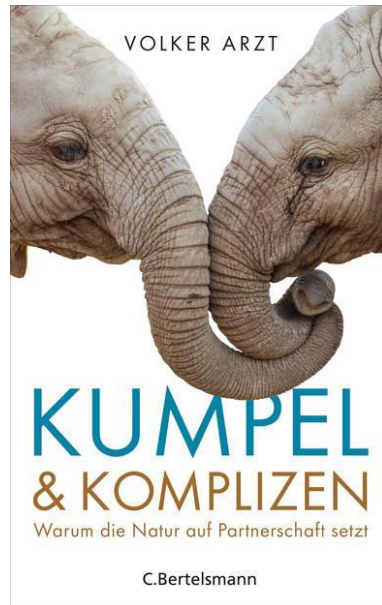


Cooperation instead of competition – nature's successful survival formula



Volker Arzt
Mates and Accomplices
[Kumpel und Komplizen]
How nature backs partnership

C. Bertelsmann
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Volker Arzt, born in 1941, is a qualified physicist, successful science journalist and author. He presented a ZDF television programme and is famous for his best-selling book *Do Animals Have a Conscience?* He has received several national and international awards, including the European Environmental Award, the Canadian Rockie Award for excellence in television broadcasting and the Japan Prize, which is seen as the internationally most important honour for educational television.

Is fair partnership more than just a vision?

"Homo homini lupus" – according to the famous saying by Thomas Hobbes, human beings are wolves as far as other humans are concerned, intent only on their own advantage. In the animal world there are countless examples of aggression and food jealousy, greed and cruelty. And yet within their pack wolves are controlled by rules and consideration towards others. The plant world, too, is full of symbiosis deals that profit both sides.

The author examines the phenomenon of cooperation in nature and illustrates his ideas with many examples from the latest research.