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Sommario/riassunto	This volume contains a selection of papers from a special session of the International Pragmatics Conference (Antwerp, August 1987) and from the Symposium on Intercultural Communication (Ghent, December 1987). Studying the communicative styles of cultures and social groups, both at the descriptive level and at the level of pragmatic theory construction, should be a target of pragmatics as a discipline. A clear view is needed of the restrictions on adaptability involving potential fields of conflict in intercultural and international communication. As the contributions to this volume demon