

# Review of: "A Conceptual Review of Discontinuity in Urban Design: The Morphological and Ethical Dimensions"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

*The paper presents an analysis (in the form of a review) based on real case studies aimed at bringing out discontinuities in the urban fabric of medieval, modern, industrial, and contemporary cities, focusing on the ways in which this crisis manifests itself in the Arab-Islamic world, as opposed to Western urban systems. Through this analysis, the concept of discontinuity is explored through an interdisciplinary approach, placing emphasis on its chrono-topic urban manifestations and its multifaceted effects: from the production of new architectural styles to urban accessibility to social cohesion.*

*Starting from the language and philosophies that have been concerned with the conflicts between opposites, discontinuity is also approached from biomedical and mathematical aspects, up to urban design, for which physical discontinuities are only one of the analysed aspects.*

*The contribution presents an important profile of originality, especially in addressing the concept of the ethics of discontinuity preliminarily to how it differs in Western and Arab-Islamic cultures in its temporal declinations.*

*Unfortunately, many topics are covered, and the result appears not always sufficiently thorough.*

*For example, the paper reports many examples, but it is not clear why the case studies were selected and what criteria were used to analyze them.*

*The proposed conclusions report a fluent summary of what is addressed in the contribution, yet an unexpected deterministic attitude is highlighted, leading the author to link discontinuities with a lack of coherence and harmony in design, when he himself sees potential, in some cases.*

*It is suggested that the scope of investigation be narrowed and deepened, and the conclusions be reshaped with the aim of sketching the potential of discontinuities in reading the fabric and designing urban systems.*