

This research aims to understand the interplay between authoritarian resilience and urban planning within Egypt, by following the nature of regime robustness through an analysis of the Egyptian Capital, Cairo, after the military coup of 2013. This thesis assumes that there are political and social implications to top-down urban planning and design choices and explores how the mechanisms of political repression-based strategy of regime stability manifest themselves in the urban layout of Cairo. Using a comparative single case study method, Cairo's recent urban planning is analyzed in a Foucauldian framework. The analysis is based on triangulating from primary Arabic sources, satellite imagery, maps, and secondary literature. The results gathered are that many of the completed or currently being finished restructuring projects facilitate a rapid and easier containment of resistance forces by the armed forces if another big-scale mass uprising ever occurred again. Additionally, urban developments by the Egyptian government promote the narrative of state-sponsored prosperity, yet in reality, they lead to relocation of citizens to easily monitored satellite cities in the periphery. Finally, the continuous development segregates different socioeconomic classes, politically marginalizing the urban poor.