

## **Topological deformability in architecture, or how to learn about differences**

Maja Dragišić

The main question of this paper is related to whether and in what way we understand the topological characteristic of deformability in numerous texts and examples of architectural theory and practice in the period from the beginning of 1990s until today. Using the concepts from topology shows how the architectural discourse changes the meaning of a mathematical and philosophical concept, determining it within its own discipline. In general, the paper deals with the problem of the denotation of concepts from other scientific fields, which through architectural theory and practice make a tangible social impact.

The first part of this paper will introduce and analyse the concept of topological deformability and its transition from mathematics, through philosophy to architecture. In the second part, through architectural examples of the concept of deformability, it will be pointed out how topology in architecture influence the transformation of the thinking modality in the architectural design process. Consequently, it will examine in what way did it influence the idea of changing relations between users, and the idea of the dominant role of architecture as an instrument of plural social reality. The research will show how topological deformability through architecture opened the way to the idea of otherness, to the essential acceptance of the different.

Dr. Maja Dragišić,  
is an architect and  
assistant professor  
at the University of  
Belgrade - Faculty  
of Architecture,  
Serbia.

Img. B06  
Spring Studio

