



Retrofitting and Strengthening in Structural Elements of Historic Masonry Buildings

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:
closed (6 October 2021)

Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

The reinforcement of historic masonry constructions is often the cause of disproportioned damages during earthquakes. This fact, which is illustrated by many recent seismic events, is mainly due to a lack of knowledge in the engineering standards and techniques of the past time. This knowledge gap is reflected in our numerical models and day-by-day professional practice. Commonly, methodologies that are appropriate for modern building techniques are implemented by ignoring the basic evidence that masonry has stood the test of time, even in seismic-prone areas. These warnings, which are amongst many, have often been left unheard and forgotten. Because of this, this Special Issue aims to collect contributions investigating the appropriateness and effectiveness of existing as well as innovative retrofitting techniques. It is worth noting that in the case of an existing masonry, [...] For further reading, please follow the link to the Special Issue Website at:

https://www.mdpi.com/journal/buildings/special_issues/Retrofitting_Strengthening_Structural_Elements_Historic_Masonry_Buildings

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Current urban environments are home to multi-modal transit systems, extensive energy grids, a building stock, and integrated services. Sprawling neighborhoods are composed of buildings that accommodate living and working quarters. However, it is expected that the cities and communities of the future will face complex and enormous challenges, including maintenance, interconnectivity, resilience, energy efficiency, and sustainability issues, to name but a few. A smart city uses advanced technologies and a digital infrastructure to improve the outcomes in every aspect of a city's operations. A smart building optimizes the experience of occupants, staff, and management by using a modern and connected environment. Innovations in technology that can bring dramatic improvements to design, planning, and policy are critical in developing the cities and buildings of the future.

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