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New Capital

Building Cities From Scratch

Nick Hannes

Dorina Pojani

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Binding	Hardback
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- New capitals worldwide through the lens of Magnum Photography Award and World Press Photo laureate Nick Hannes
- With images of six new capitals in Egypt, Korea, Nigeria, Kazakhstan, Indonesia and Brazil
- A critical look at unbridled urban development and its social and ecological consequences
- *'Gifted with a sharp eye for urban planning detail, Nick Hannes has travelled around the globe to document these cities as they stand in the early 2020s. His is a bottom-up perspective, juxtaposing starchitecture with the lives of those struggling to make a life in new capital cities.'* — Dorina Pojani in the book introduction

"Award-winning Belgian photojournalist Nick Hannes casts a critical eye on six newly built capital cities around the world, from Korea to Kazakhstan, and questions whether they are really serving the people who live in them." — **Elle Decoration UK**

What does the ideal capital look like? Photographer Nick Hannes traveled to six countries – Egypt, Korea, Nigeria, Kazakhstan, Indonesia and Brazil – that have recently built a new capital or are in the process of doing so. Each and every one of them is a typical example of what Rem Koolhaas calls the Generic City: a planned city without historical layers, local identity, or its own character. As a visual sociologist with a sharp eye for detail, Hannes searches for the human dimension in a setting full of spectacular architecture and pompous prestige projects. ***New Capital*** is a critical reflection on unbridled neoliberal urban development and its social and ecological consequences, but is also peppered with subtle humor and surprising coincidences. Meandering between pride and sadness, ***New Capital*** shows how utopia and dystopia are sometimes surprisingly close.

Nick Hannes is a photojournalist and documentary photographer from Belgium, specialized in globalization, urbanization and migration. He is represented by the Panos Pictures agency in London. Hannes won the Magnum Photography Award – Documentary – for the series *Dubai. Bread and circuses* and this year also the World Press Photo Award in the Series Africa category. At Lannoo he published the book *Red Journey* in 2009. **Dorina Pojani** is Associate Professor in Urban Planning at the University of Queensland. She is the author of *Trophy Cities: A Feminist Perspective on New Capitals* (Edward Elgar, 2021).







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