

# The Evolution of Urban Spaces in The Shadow of Globalization With Emphasis on Socio-Cultural Dimensions

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## Abstract

In recent decades, the concept of "globalization" has changed the political-economic and socio-cultural structure worldwide. This concept has caused the actions and developments of a point in the world to affect other parts of the world. The emergence of this new concept gradually created new spaces and great changes in human attitudes toward space. Globalization, which was initially used and accepted at a slow pace, seems to have had a profound effect on urban public spaces in recent years due to the growth of technology and the practical change in the concepts of time and place. During these years, the frequent and rapid display of urban spaces around the world, which has been provided due to the global era and its communication facilities, has caused fundamental differences in the design of new public spaces and on the other hand, in the presence and use of these spaces. Because it has directly affected the culture of societies. The purpose of this study is to identify the important factors influencing the evolution of urban spaces during globalization. This article uses a qualitative meta-analysis method to present a proposed model to improve the planning and design of public spaces in the global era and tries to express an analysis beyond what has been presented so far with qualitative techniques and taking into account global/local policies and standards. In data analysis, the obtained data are proportionally included in the theoretical framework of the research (dimensions of globalization, urban public spaces). These dimensions are considered as predefined codes in the research and the data are analyzed based on these codes. The results show that inter-global/local interaction is the most important issue that will affect the quality of public spaces in global cities. This interaction takes place in global/local dynamics, global standards, and inherent indigenous talents.

**Keywords:** Globalization, Local, Public Spaces, Culture

## 1. Introduction

Globalization and its possibilities, in recent decades, have caused changes in world system, fading of local cultures, changes in spatial and political justice, and countless other issues. Meanwhile, cities have not been without these changes. The biggest effect of these changes is the use of the same patterns in large-scale urban planning and micro-scale urban buildings and spaces. On the other hand, the concept of urban space in a world that is increasingly globalized, has changed in response to new needs and physical-spatial conditions (Ghahremaniet al., 2021). The main purpose of this study is to analyze the developments of urban spaces in the light of the socio-cultural dimensions of globalization. The question is, what effect has socio-cultural globalization had on the public spaces of cities? And how was the process of changes in this proceeding? By identifying the process of globalization and examining its dimensions and characteristics on the one hand and redefining public spaces in the globalized world on the other hand, this study examines the most important effects of the social and cultural dimension of globalization on urban spaces. Because ignoring the issues related to the inevitable flow of globalization leads to the destruction of the formal and functional identity of spaces and provides the preparation of their change into general

and anonymous global places. Therefore, providing a codified framework while examining the existing basics, can provide fundamental and generalizable basic information to urban designers and planners. The proposed framework of this article can help to revive the local identity of cities while redefining the globalized urban space. The present study belongs to the critical methodology philosophically, so that despite the global dominance of economics and the philosophy of globalization, it considers the social and cultural differences of societies and examines the social and cultural effects of globalization on cities from a critical point of view. The time frame of the research will be particularly limited to the impact of this process in the last decade.

## 2. Research Background

Imppola (2020) examines the important role of economics in the globalized world and believes that economic changes have a significant impact on daily life and virtually affect all dimensions of life. Mandeli (2019) shows that modernist approaches to planning and design, along with changing management practices in emerging cities, have created a high-quality urban space. The study shows that the lack of modernist planning, design and management has led to public dissatisfaction with

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contemporary spaces in Jeddah. These mentioned cases have changed the form of the socio-spatial texture, changed the traditional street culture, lost the sense of local identity, created unusable urban spaces and have raised major questions about how such spaces respond to the needs and demands of the people. The results show that public spaces in Jeddah have changed dramatically in recent decades, and these changes in public spaces reflect extensive changes in Saudi society.

Martin and Matteudi (2018) point out that in the era of unprecedented leaps in globalization, there have been changes in the way social status is addressed in developed and developing countries. And after expressing the opinions of Hegel, Marcus, and Russu, he concludes that the signs in the global age, simply point to a transition, regardless of observed development level in countries, requires them to change their position on the international stage or it may lead to the emergence of more or less different models. Worse, this view may mean that the global problem in a world that has become increasingly "global" is gradually eliminating the traditional model.

Choplin & Pliez (2015) argue that at the time, more than ever, we need to reconsider the scale of globalization. The local-global dialectic is no longer sufficient to understand the power of current changes, and we must not confine ourselves to these two scales just to "escape the local and global conundrum that many researchers have faced."

The study of the existing cases shows that the process of globalization has affected the smallest dimension of human life that cannot and should not be done without considering the changes and its effects on urban planning and urban spaces. Therefore, it is necessary to express a theoretical model of open public space planning in the context of globalization.

### **3. Theoretical Foundations of Research**

#### *3.1. History and definitions of globalization*

The term globalization has first used to describe economic developments. Then it was used for different issues that affected many nations; like drug trafficking and terrorism. In the late 1960s, under the influence of the communication revolution and the global division of labor, the scope of globalization entered other areas of human life (Barber, 1996). Some see globalization as a product of capitalism and others as the result of modernity. The first group (Wallerstein and Robertson) considered the collapse of the Eastern Bloc as the foundation of the birth of this concept. Because the United States found the opportunity to be at the top of the pyramid of the world system as the only political superpower with the expansion of the free economy. Thus, the first group considers the roots of globalization in the sixteenth century and the emergence of the new capitalist system, which has now reached its peak and has also overshadowed the fields of culture, politics and communication technology. But the second group (Giddens, Skiller, Ulrich Beck, Joseph Nye) considers globalization as a product of modernity because it is embedded in the nature of modernity. In fact, the open society of the modern age, which has led to the

generalization of human freedoms, civil society and human rights, has brought globalization with itself. In any case, it should be noted that globalization, worldview and cosmopolitanism have a long history in the history of human life but theorists such as Castells, Giddens and Taylor believe that contemporary globalization is a new phenomenon that has been created in the late twentieth century with the occurrence of the information and communication revolution and the restructuring of the global economy (Nazarpour, 2020).

Since the invention of this concept, various definitions of this subject have been provided by experts in various disciplines and sciences, including: "compactness of the world", "greater dependence of different parts of the world", "increasing dependence and entanglement of the world", "The process of Westernization and assimilation of the world", "Integration of all economic aspects in a global scale", "Broadening the scope of impact and effectiveness of social actions", "Reducing the imposed costs of space and time development" and the like. But ultimately this term is a metaphor that re-exposes the complexity of the world that we are living in. It has even been argued that globalization is not limited to the movement of physical objects such as products and individuals, but can also include intangible objects such as ideas (Amin and Trift, 1994).

What is derived from the existing definitions shows that globalization has a direct communication with the concepts of process, time, place, and consciousness (Harvey, 1990; Robertson, 1992, 1993; Waters, 1995; Giddens, 1998, 2001; Banerjee et al., 2003) and as a set of necessary operations and steps to achieve a specific goal (process) has led to the displacement of physical boundaries and change the concept of place and time in the public mind. These major changes have been imposed on communities in some cases consciously in some cases unknowingly. Globalization has presented a way of life to contemporary man. there is a vast, deep, high-speed global interconnectedness in all aspects of life, including financial, economic, cultural and environmental.

Another point that has made globalization a challenge in the contemporary era is that the term lacks a precise definition and due to its interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary the nature as well as its high comprehensiveness and its extensive impact on all aspects of contemporary life is in a risk of becoming a stereotype (Dehshiri, 2014). Thus, we can summarize globalization more as the movement of lifestyles, policies, principles, ideologies, goods and people through a global space. From this definition, it can be noted that although globalization has been effective in many aspects, but it has included most social aspects such as lifestyle and culture (Kara, 2019).

#### *3.2. Globalization: a complex multifaceted phenomenon*

Globalization involves many aspects; from economics, politics, religion and social elements (Kara, 2019) to environment and culture. Some of these aspects are contradictory and overlapping, and therefore their meaning is always debated. This concept transforms the

social structures of affected countries and societies, as well as the people who live there (Martin and Matteudi, 2018, 4).

The economic dimension is one of the three criteria for the Combined Globalization Index, presented by the KOF Institute for globalization evaluation. In fact, the globalization of the economy emphasizes on the increasing mobility of labor, fund and technology, the expansion of international trade, which means the increase of connection of markets and the expansion of communications (Samimi et al., 2018). The other dimension is the scientific and technological dimension. The development of information and communication technology is closely related to the process of globalization in the world. This technology has destroyed the previous importance of time and place by altering the accepted ideas about nature of space. In this way, it has created wide communication opportunities for cities and their citizens, which has been very effective in the process of globalization of the city. According to Giddens (2001), the most important area of globalization is the globalization of communication. It is the communication industry that has become the source of the unification of the global space and has transformed interpersonal, individual-to-group and group-to-group communications.

In the age of political globalization, we can no longer talk about national sovereignty, national borders and national security. Globalization in the political arena will promote democracy and the growth of political culture and civic

attitudes (Gholami, 2012). The other dimension is the environmental dimension. Globalization is a mixed movement for the environment; this means, globalization can be seen as an opportunity to create new tensions on the one hand, and to have environmental benefits on the other. For example, free trade can lead to economic growth and on the other hand can lead to increased pollution, cross-border damage and unsustainable consumption of natural resources, while globalization strengthens economic integration, lowers prices for consumers, improves services and increases the right to choose and compete in the market (Navabi Fard, Arashpour, 2016; quoted by Estee and Ivanova, 2003).

In general, the processes of globalization have become an objective reality in the development of the modern world. The complexity of the forms of this process has also occurred gradually: if in the early stages of the functioning of global markets for goods, services and unification requirements were produced, globalization would spread to other areas of human life including social, technological, cultural and environmental in today's conditions (Kasych and Vochozka, 2019). That is why globalization must be considered as a complex multifaceted phenomenon. Figure 1 shows the main dimensions of globalization and Figure 2 shows the factors affecting urban development and the main factors of globalization.

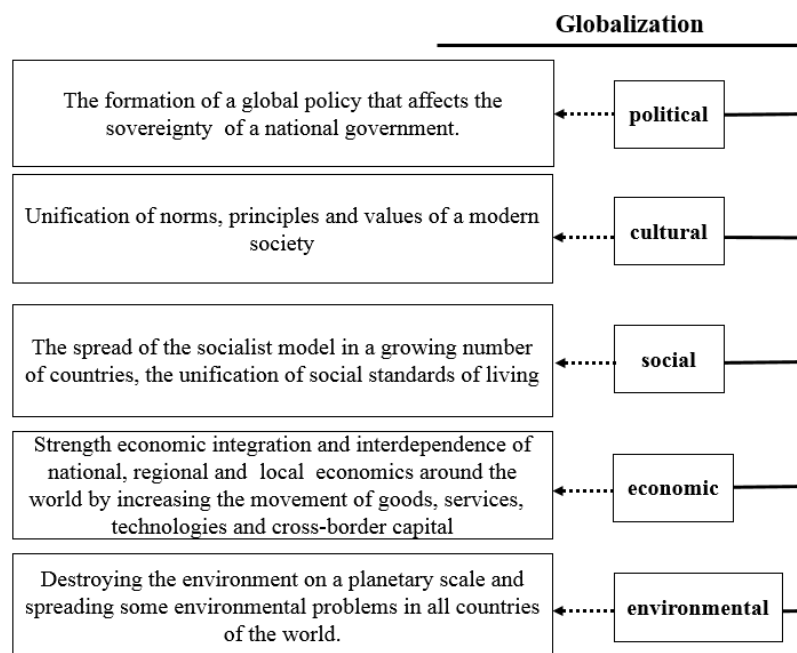


Fig. 1. The main dimensions of globalization

### 3.3. Social and cultural dimension of globalization

In The Hidden Dimension, Edward Hall considers culture to determine how one perceives the world and the only meaningful way to react to others. Halton (2000), however, sees culture as a historical paradigm shifted from the meaning which is embodied in symbolic forms, through which people communicate and expand their knowledge and attitudes toward life. Ronald Robertson

(1992) defines globalization as "the consciousness of the world as a whole." In his opinion, this phenomenon has a purely cultural nature, but its dialogic nature is such that it cannot be separated from political-economic processes. In this regard, Lash and Yuri (1995) define globalization in the form of the relationship between social, economic and cultural currents and describe the effects of globalization

at the local level and with more attention to economic processes.

Giddens (1990) in his book *The Consequences of Modernity* with a different view considers globalization as a consequence of modernity, or in other words, considers globalization as development and extension of modernity and he relates globalization to his social theory of the compression of social relations around the world (Giddens, 1990, 63). This is in fact the concept that

Tomlinson (1999) later referred to as cultural connection. The social dimension of globalization refers to the effect of globalization on the lives and work of people, families and communities. Beyond the business world, the social dimension of globalization includes culture and identity, the solidarity of families and communities. In general, globalization is related to human interaction in different cultural societies and in relation to issues such as family, religion, work and education (Jafari Samimi et al., 2019).

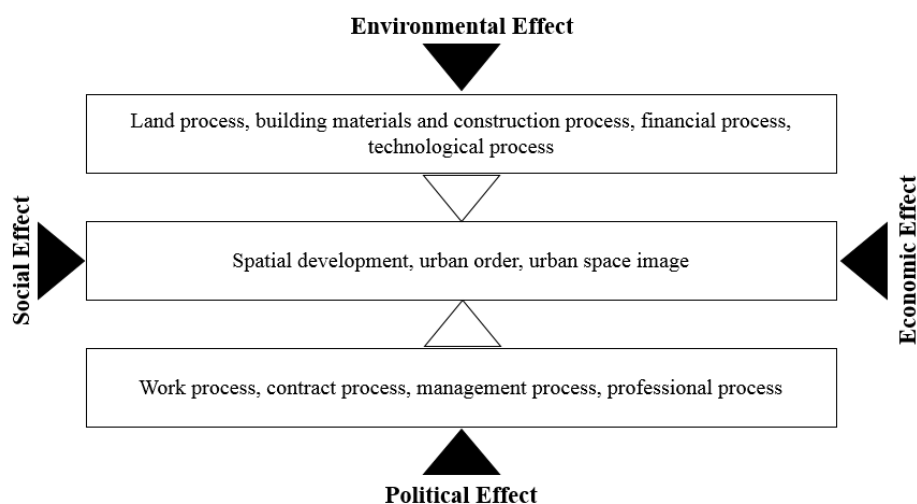


Fig. 2. Factors affecting urban development and the main factors of globalization, Reference: Mandeli, 2019

According to Cohen (2008), the change in the relationship between time and place and culture has given rise to new "social texture" that requires new world sociology. In fact, the relatively local and closed society of the past has become a supra-local, global or local-global society that more than any other history, connects faster with distant cultures and societies and in some areas, the globalization of culture deals with the creation of a common but extremely diverse field consisting of values, tastes and choices that can be accessed by all individuals without any restrictions. In a globalized culture, a continuous flow of ideas, information, commitments, values and tastes is transmitted by individuals through the use of electronic media and simulations. This constant flow gives a special shape to global culture: first, it causes the different cultures that were once cohesive and homogeneous to be interconnected, to be forced to communicate with each other. Establishing this connection creates a kind of evaluation of their basic principles and legitimacy in the face of others, which sometimes even leads to the absorption of some of each other's characteristics (this is the process known as the "dialogue of civilizations"). Second, it allows the sincere growth of independent cultures of a particular society or nation-state, cultures that can be new or a combination of conventional cultures (Waters, 1995, 126-124).

Globalization in various fields, including the cultural field, has caused a kind of divergence and at the same time has caused convergence. On the other hand, the feeling of global integration or identity plays a key role in creating harmony between object and mind, or in other

words, between globalization and the matching culture. Therefore, in the era of globalization, a cultural divergence at the national stage and a cultural convergence at the global stage is being created (Zaki, Hosseini Nasrabadi, 2014). Thus, this process more or less creates a wave of cultural homogeneity in the world and challenges the unique and special cultural features of the national type. The global process has brought human beings closer together in a global texture by compressing space and time, bridging distances, paving the way for social relations, and making communication as easy as possible through new information technology and media. In such circumstances, different cultures and identities are also desegregated and de-territorialized and placed next to each other on the world stage, which will lead to a kind of relativism, coexistence and competition (Moazenpour et al., 2019). Meanwhile, the national government plays a decisive role in organizing the cultural phenomenon through nationalism. The nature of the world system of nation-states is such a way that it brings about the uniformity of states, and states acquire a similar nature. Considering that governments are the main factor in creating culture, it is inevitable to have cultures with similarities (Zaki, Hosseini Nasr Abadi, 2014). The study of the phenomenon of global culture will not be possible without considering various processes such as the global economy, global politics, national government, technology and global communications and related indicators of each (Figure 3). This type of globalization describes the pervasive and growing influence of Western consumer culture, which is spreading through new

entertainment and other media such as television, pop music, cinema, and tourism, in such a way that people in

every place show the same tastes and lifestyles and similar tendencies.

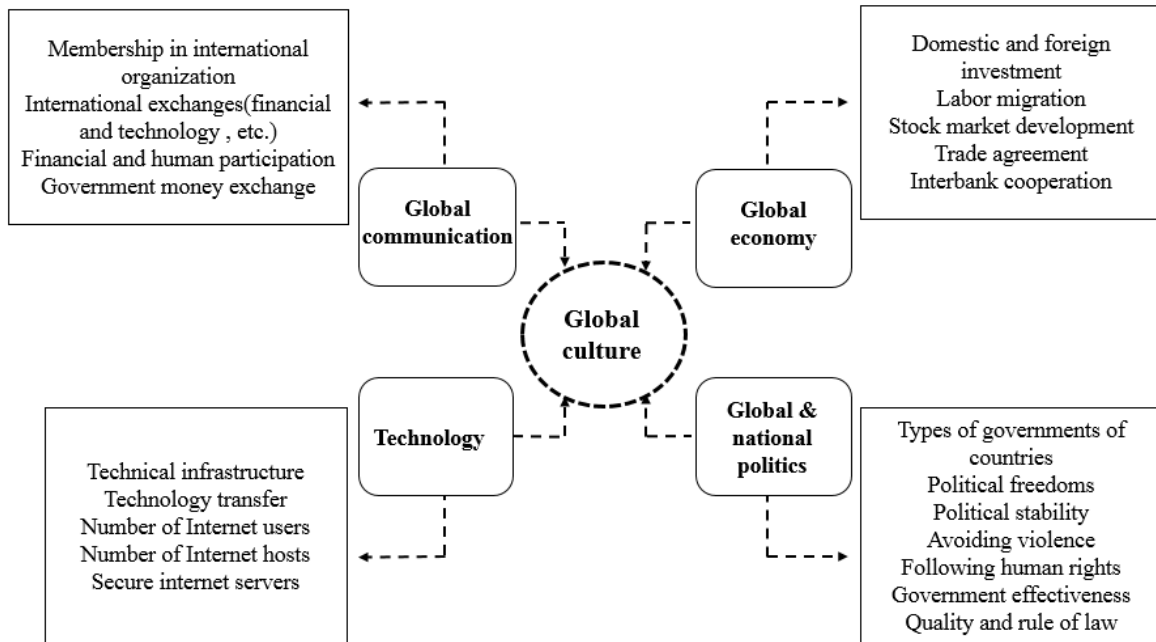


Fig. 3. Processes affecting global culture

### 3.4. Cultural globalization as a paradigm

The globalization of culture is important from a sociological point of view as well as urban design due to its impact on society and the physical scope of society's life. A comprehensive analysis has been done in this regard. In general, there are three main paradigms in theorizing the cultural dimensions of globalization. Their purpose is to answer the question of whether cultures around the world will continue to live their original, untouched life forever, independent of any trend. Are these cultures, influenced by the process of globalization, coming closer to each other and experiencing similarity in their basic foundations? Or do they provide various and new forms of combining global and local cultures? The first paradigm is "cultural differentiation." Those who believe in this paradigm recognize the differences between different global cultures that are not fundamentally influenced by globalization or any other multicultural, intercultural, or transcultural process. Of course, this does not mean that cultures are not affected by any of these processes, especially globalization, but it means that the core of cultures is largely immune to their influence. In other words, cultures remain the same as they always have been. The second paradigm is "Cultural convergence." The previous paradigm is rooted in the idea that as a result of globalization or despite it, the difference between cultures continues. On the contrary, the paradigm of cultural convergence is based on the idea that globalization leads to increase similarities around the world. According to this belief, the world's cultures are increasingly moving towards homogeneity and these changes are mainly fundamental changes (Riters, 2016). This view states that global culture is being standardized in a Western or American pattern, and based on this view,

globalization leads to cultural convergence. Some interpretations refer to shopping centers or similar and alike hotels in Singapore, ST. Louis and terms such as "Coca-Colonization" or "McDonaldization" in the world, reflect the view that follows the cultural globalization. Homogenization is the equivalent of Westernization or even Americanization. In other words, the tools in the cultural dimension of globalization are as effective as possible and accelerate the spread of a global culture. This culture is commonly spread by the United States around the world (Halton, 2000). It is enough to take a look at the sales and distribution statistics of video productions to be aware of the high power of cultural tools. Thus, on the one hand, the global consumer culture is changing rapidly, and on the other hand, the homogenization patterns will not be static and unchanged. What remains unclear is whether the use of communication technologies (such as the Internet and virtual networks) can go beyond convergence or not.

The third paradigm is "cultural bond". This paradigm emphasizes on the mixing of cultures due to globalization and the emergence of a new unique combination culture from the heart of the fusion of global and local culture, which can be reduced neither to local culture nor to global culture (Riters, 2016). The idea of cultural connection or hybrid culture or integration has been successfully applied to a wide range of phenomena such as music, contemporary art and literature, and religious and spiritual life. But it is difficult to assess its scale and scope. One reason for this is the relatively blurred conceptual status of this cultural orientation. The idea states that what is called as culture is so combined that there is no longer any distinction between pure and original culture and others. (Halton, 2000).

By examining the cultural changes in the age of globalization, it can be concluded that in different societies, not necessarily the global culture that according to the paradigm of cultural convergence should prevail over all cultures, has been created. Not that these cultures have survived in parallel with global trends and have survived without fundamental change. Therefore, it can be concluded that the third paradigm has been able to describe reality more accurately. Because from this perspective, it is not that global homogeneity or cultural resistance has not occurred at all, but it is important to combine global processes with various local realities that create connected and distinct forms. This view holds for the heterogeneity and continuous production of "something else" from the heart of the fusion of the global and the local, rather than the absolute homogeneity of the local in the face of globalization. And he believes that this pervasive process, as a completely creative process, gives rise to new cultural realities known as the "world of localization." According to Robertson (2001), the concept of globalization has always implied the simultaneity and interconnectedness of the two phenomena, that are conventionally called "global" and "local" or, in abstract terms, "more general" and "A special matter." In other words, defining the world in a way as if the world negates the local is meaningless (Ameli, 2011, 224). And it reveals the need to replace the controversial term "localization of the world" with the term "globalization of the world." This concept has been formed in the heart of the third paradigm and is considered by many theorists, including urban theorists (Nazarpour, 2020). Thus, what happens in all three cases is the "separation" of society, which in any case will not have the previous social and cultural homogeneity (Morley, 1995, 108). In addition to the above three cases, it seems that a fourth case can be added to the types of local community in the process of globalization of culture. The situation that is assumed for countries in the eastern part of the world, especially developing countries such as Iran, is the "westernization" of society's culture. In more general and symbolic terms, this can be generalized as the domination of northern culture over southern countries. In this article, the assumption of global culture anomaly and lack of specific cultural dominance is questioned. In this case, due to the wider and more powerful domination of Western countries over global media such as the Internet, satellite, etc., over the currents of the world economy, it is likely that Western culture will spread with more power and frequency than more specific Eastern cultures. Therefore, assuming the acceptance of all the positive features that global culture can have in each of the three mentioned cases, it seems that the main problem is Westernization. Therefore, based on the above explanations, although the promotion of national-local culture and identity is considered necessary in the process of globalization, at the same time, it seems helpful to maintain a connection with global culture. Homogenization, polarization, and hybridization alone cannot explain the complexities of this comprehensive concept.

The present study concludes that a decision should be made with a fluid perspective and depending on the situation. It seems like Americanization or Westernization act like a strong magnet, but still with the knowledge of global integrated culture, sometimes homogenization gives way to polarization. Strong indigenous practices and identities can also affect the speed of acceptance or globalization of American culture or Western influence. None of these theories can be completely true or false. Certainly, cultural globalization owes much to a cultural integration, but it is the intercultural changes and developments that have continued throughout history that have led to the cultural diversity of the world.

### *3.5. Public spaces of cities during globalization*

Efforts to study the impact of globalization require further efforts to study its impact on cities (Kara, 2019). Because globalization does not only affect economic elements but also changes culture, lifestyle, beliefs, tastes and preferences (Johnston et al., 2003). It can be said that the focus of the impact of globalization has been on cities. Because cities have special importance in different countries at least in the physical, political and economic fields. These developments can be discussed in different dimensions. Kara (2019) examines the process of globalization and the effects that this trend has on the understanding of city management, urban space and urban law. All cities in globalization are becoming increasingly similar (Hubbard and Hall, 1998). This also applies to urban spaces.

In fact, urban spaces as an important part of cities can represent the effects of globalization. The high importance of these spaces is not hidden from anyone. One of the most important social features of cities is the provision of public spaces where strangers can interact, discuss, learn and teach, and grow psychologically through various connections. Lefebvre believed that social space results from thoughts and events that ultimately form a significant part of the built environment in the places where we live. For this reason, he imagined that there is a direct relationship between the social aspects and the constructed environment (Maher Mafoz, 2019, p. 62).

The newly approved urban agenda at the Habitat III Conference in Quito (October 2016) has endorsed the centrality of public spaces as an element of urban development, and called them "drivers of social and economic development" (Mehaffy et al., 2019).

With the mentioned introduction, it can be concluded that public areas are the most important part of the structure of cities and are the places where the most human contact and interaction have taken place and people have constant physical and semantic access to them (Artopoulos et al., 2019). Public open space (POS) offers many benefits to urban residents, including opportunities for relaxation, socialization, and social interaction that help communities to form their identity and strengthen their social structure. However, most authors on public space issues have acknowledged the overall decline in the quality and quantity of POS worldwide (Carmona and Demgalhas, 2006; Arvanitidis and Nazioka, 2017).

In recent decades, the trend from "traditional" urban public spaces such as squares, parks and streets to "new semi-public" spaces - such as urban shopping malls - has been considered by many commentators on urban studies as a worrying trend; cases like "privatization", "commodification", "militarization", "disneyism", "the fall of public man" (ibid). In recent years, however, this concern has shifted from new semi-public spaces to the development and dominance of "cyberspace." Thus, even the concept of public spaces has changed during globalization. Sudijch (1999) identifies the airport, museum and mall as the most important public spaces in the definition of a contemporary world city. The experience of being in a public space, where fun and consumer value are prominent, is gradually becoming a "closed" and "protected" space. In addition, within the entertainment and virtual networks as well as Internet-related service industries, people are gradually preferring a secure home environment to traditional outdoor spaces.

On the other hand, cases such as increasing privatization or giving priority to a specific group of society in a public space, Increasing control of access to space, using it and controlling the behavior through the design or use of surveillance cameras or security guards, design without looking at local identities and climate of the region, the prevalence of consumerism, the emphasis on leisure versus production and services in the contemporary world, the high level of communication through the telecommunications technology network, the elimination of the need for face-to-face interaction, reducing the importance of closeness in establishing social interactions and changing the concepts of "distance" and to a large extent "place" and "speed", utilizing user homogenization and design features in public areas of downtown around the world, changing the way we think about the issue of freedom and desire to be alone and prioritizing individuality in all cases and etc. are some of the things that have had a profound effect on our understanding of real public spaces, their quality and even the necessity of their existence in a world that is experiencing a vast technological revolution, especially in the ICT area. Today we see that forgotten gardens or squares, lower streets in the urban hierarchy and city stairs are not used much, while these spaces are potentially valuable assets. Another important issue about open spaces is the existence of an open space system in the city, which increases the opportunity for dynamic use of public spaces. To achieve the benefits and completely understand the value of open spaces, user demographics such as gender, age and ethnicity must be examined. Users of different genders, ethnicities or ages have different ways of understanding and using the open spaces that are important to understand. Because human diversity causes individuals and groups to have different perceptions while using public open spaces (Frommkin, 2003).

Another important influence on patterns of social and cultural use of open spaces in the Middle East and Islamic countries is gender (Ilahi, 2010). Gender segregation is clearly present in the open spaces of Islamic countries. Redick (1996) also points to the existence of racial

discrimination against women in cases where they are excluded from the public area, or are allowed to participate only under certain restrictions. Another important issue is the issue of age. Children are more likely to relate to open spaces than adults because their movement is limited in space and time, and children are confined to the open-air near where they live (O'Brien, 2006).

In the contemporary world where globalization is pushing boundaries and rapidly popularizing open space design and management ideas, public spaces need a careful upgrade. An update that responds to the needs of the global human being while inviting. Meanwhile, new communication technologies such as cyberspace have been able to have a great impact on public spaces. Bayer (1996) believes that the experience of public space is changing, and that many public functions can now be performed in malls and in semi-private, secure Internet spaces. The intensive use of the Internet and related digital technologies has affected almost all important areas of urban life, without exception, in urban public spaces. As a result, paving the way for the potential impacts of information and communication technologies from the macro-level to the urban level in recent years has become a leading sector for urban planners, designers and managers. In this regard, the expansion of urban technologies to urban public spaces has emerged as a new challenging area for discussion and exchange.

Ritzer (2003) shows that globalization has created similar patterns of consumption with the development of technology and the increase in the production of non-geographical locations. As a result, the number of leisure centers, office parks, and shopping malls which are created as a result of globalization is increasing. Welcoming other cities to follow these patterns does not mean that there is a common standard or idea of the effects of globalization, but all of them serve as inspiration for the spatial development of cities. Although cities may have the same style, design, scale, and architectural function, or they may have been built according to it, globalization does not have the same effects across the globe or cities (Johnston et al., 2003).

The truth is that the nature of urban public spaces has changed; and socio-economic changes can be understood through changes in the organization of urban space (Harvey, 1973; Lefebvre, 1991). There is a clear line about the process of change in public spaces during globalization; in the pre-industrial period, urban spaces facilitated everyday communication, socialization, and trade, and as a key element allowed each city to have its own unique personality (Mandeli, 2019). But in today's globalized world, the situation has changed. According to Jacobs (1961) in Western cities, the Industrial Revolution forever changed the shape of old cities, the nature of the social environment, the people's experience of the public realm, and indeed all aspects of their lives (Mandeli, 2019). After World War II, various strategies for implementing housing and transportation projects in developed countries were adopted. The need to adapt to traffic and move towards zoning constraints created deep

differences in the urban space that led to the fragmentation of the urban texture and the change of public territory (Gehl & Svarre, 2013). The second factor that changed the character of public open spaces and their deterioration was the weakness of local governance with limited financial and legal power to cope with the massive increase in population and the expansion of cities. As a result, public spaces are deprived of a broad civic function, which increases disinterest in public spaces (Carmona, 2010). Financial crises of the mid-1970s; the reduction of income of national and local authorities; the failure of urban planning policies, such as uncontrolled leapfrog and declining quality of public facilities, have all contributed to the privatization of government institutions. These, in turn, changed the available free spaces to controlled and exclusive spaces (Kirby, Glavak, 2012). Banerjee and Loukaitou Sideris (1992) argued that the increasing role of the private sector in urban governance since the 1980s, the dramatic increase in urban population since 2000, the decline of industrial activity in developed countries and integration with a global economy, have created profound changes in the character of public spaces. Meanwhile, economic growth and capital accumulation take precedence over socio-cultural and environmental concerns. As a result, all forms of public spaces have undergone changes, this is neither positive nor negative, but can be positive or negative depending on

the conditions that are mentioned. But in most cases, it seems that the quality of public space has improved and can attract many new users. Also, new global projects have reconstructed traditional spaces and created new spaces that will help to promote the tourism industry by attracting new jobs (Carmona, 2019). Therefore, everything depends on the management, design and planning of public spaces to maintain and enhance the space during the global competition between cities.

#### 4. Research Method

The fact that due to barriers such as time, cost and expertise, is not possible to conduct research studies with large samples, shows the need to combine the results of multiple studies. In this study, in addition to the issue of how effective the findings of an independent study can be, mainly qualitative meta-analysis method is considered to include a larger statistical population. The basic idea of this method is to provide an accurate and comprehensive picture of the findings of various qualitative researches that have followed the same research topic. This method can be considered as a new and integrated interpretation of the existing research findings, which is stronger than the results of each separate research (Timulak, 2009, 591-592). Details of the meta-analysis method used are given in Table 1.

Table 1  
Stages of scientific research method in the present study

Stages of scientific research method	Stages of the scientific method of the present study
Goal setting	Explanation and theoretical development
Determining the key research question	What are the most important factors influencing the
Determining the selection criteria of existing studies and their selection	Selection based on available resources related to the keywords of urban space and globalization

To answer the research question, in the first step, the most important literature in the field of the relationship between "urban spaces and globalization" is reviewed through the analysis of articles collected from the most relevant network of scientific literature (Elsevier / Science Direct) and reputable domestic scientific journals. In this regard, in the mentioned scientific databases, the relevant keywords were searched, which, due to the novelty of the subject, has led to finding a small number of articles that

include both urban space and globalization at the same time. Therefore, in order to identify a manageable subset of available resources, the most relevant articles with both terms and their derivatives were selected from the results obtained. Finally, according to the subject of the present study, 23 related articles in the field of urban spaces and globalization were analyzed by the content analysis method (Table 2).

Table 2  
Articles related to the research topic

Result	Spatial scale	Time scale	Approach	References
Dissatisfaction with public spaces	Contemporary public spaces in Jeddah	Recent decade	Theoretical / experimental	Mandley (2019)
Reduce activities in public space	-	Recent decade	Theoretical / experimental	Abdel Aziz et al. (2015)
Low fertility, aging and unpredictable migration patterns	154 countries	Period time (1950-2030)	Theoretical / experimental	Cividino et al. (2020)



Expressing the concept of a "common life" in a globalized world	Developed and developing countries	Short-term, medium-term and long-term	Theoretical	MARTIN & MATTEUDI(2018)
The dream of becoming American in the globalized world	Canada, Denmark and Singapore	Recent decade	Theoretical / experimental	Modgil (2016)
Challenges of social sustainability as the root of problems	Rich and poor countries	Recent decade	Theoretical	Jaakko Impppola (2020)
Lack of response of local-global dialectic	Unknown or ignored spaces	Contemporary era	Theoretical	Choplin & Pliez (2015)
Changing relationships between time and place and culture	Focus on the United States	-	Theoretical	Cohen (2002) -
Production of new urban spaces	Vancouver, Yokohama and Shanghai	-	Theoretical	Olds (1995) k
The character of the city has completely changed.	Dubai / Recent decades	Contemporary era	Theoretical / experimental	MAHMOUD A. HAGGAG (2011)
Criticism of ignoring the interaction between global and local actors	-	Contemporary era	Theoretical	Janice (2007) -
The impact of globalization on the exploitation of urban public space	Poland	Contemporary era	Theoretical / experimental	Mierzejewska (2011)
Transformation of major public aspects of the city into private spaces	Large areas of Southeast Asian cities	Contemporary era	Theoretical / experimental	Hong and Douglas (2007)
The direct impact of globalization on public spaces	-	Contemporary era	Theoretical	Thompson (2002)
Ranking the global urban space components	Abbas Abad lands, Bustan Velayat, historical neighborhood of Oudlajan	Contemporary era	Theoretical / experimental	Hooman Ghahremani (2015)
The role and importance of cities, especially metropolises, in the process of globalization	Emphasis on metropolises	-	Theoretical	Saremi et al. (2015)
The impact of globalization on the activity of urban open spaces and their shape and form	The historical center of Tehran		Theoretical / experimental	Adham and Aminzadeh, 2011
The Impact of Globalization on China's Economic Power	China	Contemporary era	Theoretical / experimental	Helsal and Cook (2013)
Increasing competitive pressures in the age of globalization	Urban residential areas of Guangdong Bay, Hong Kong and Macao		Theoretical / experimental	Liu (2019)
The need to study transnational immigrant currents or social movements and citizens in the age of globalization	-		Theoretical	Perez (2017)
The need to change attitudes about urban open spaces	Five urban spaces in Taif, Hail, Tabuk and Abha	Recent decade	Theoretical / experimental	Addas (2020)
Changing the culture of the young generation in the cities of Bangladesh with global values	Dhaka	Recent Decade	Theoretical / experimental	Hussein and Mohiudin (2015)
Underdeveloped countries have not benefited from globalization.	Nigeria	Recent decade	Theoretical / experimental	Popula (2020)
There is no significant difference	Philippines	recent decade	Theoretical /	Freunda et al. (2018)

between SME perceptions in terms of the impact of Philippine WTO / GATT membership.			experimental	
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Table 2 shows a complete summary of the approaches, time and place scale as well as the results from the reviewed sources. These studies are done while

considering the technological revolution and information technology as a drivers of globalization.

Table 3  
Date of publication of the studied sources

Frequency percentage	Abundance of resources	Year of publication
4/35	1	Before 2000
8/69	2	2000 to 2005
8/69	2	2005 to 2010
21/74	5	2010 to 2015
56/52	13	2015 to 2020
100	23	Total

Table 3 shows that 56.52% of the research articles are related to the period from 2015 to 2020. This shows that the issue of globalization and the impact it has on cities and urban spaces is a new topic and has attracted the attention of many researchers over time, especially in recent decade. Table 4 also shows that most of this

research was conducted in Chinese cities (14.28%) and the study of the geographical distribution of articles published in the field of research, clearly shows the gap in the relevant literature in the field of Middle Eastern countries, especially Iran.

Table 4  
Spatial scale of the studied sources

Spatial scale of the article	Abundance of resources	Frequency percentage
Canada-Vancouver	2	9/52
Singapore	1	4/76
Denmark	1	4/76
America	1	4/76
Japan-Yokohama	1	4/76
China-Shanghai, Guangdong Bay Urban Areas, Hong Kong and Macao	3	14/28
Dubai	1	4/76
Poland	1	4/76
Vietnam	1	4/76
Hong Kong	1	4/76
Saudi Arabia - Jeddah, Taif, Hail, Tabuk and Abha	2	9/52
Nigeria	2	9/52
Iran Tehran	2	9/52
Philippines	1	4/76
Bangladesh- Dhaka	1	4/76
Total	21	100

## 5. Discussion and Conclusion

Human beings are inherently active, social beings and in constant contact with their surroundings and need to be in society (Pakzad, Bozorg, 2016). A study in Sweden found that the longer people spend outdoors, the less stress they feel, regardless of gender, socioeconomic status, or age (Maher Mafoz, 2019, p. 50). At the same time, a diverse community can promote social capital by having open spaces for the common use of individuals, such as a square, park or garden (Cohen et al., 2008, p. 201). Therefore, meeting the human need to love and to be together, requires the existence of a collective physical base and public spaces have the greatest capacity in this regard (Khandan, Rezaei, 2021). On the other hand, space in the context of a dynamic relationship with time to be

redefined in each period according to the requirements and leads to a space according to the wishes of contemporary man. With the dynamism of the concept of space-time, it is possible to have an understanding of place as an open and porous concept whose identity is constantly defined and redefined in relation to the developments of the time (Madanipour, 2019, 36). Therefore, in the era of globalization, public spaces have been strongly influenced by the characteristics of this period. Among the most important developments of recent times are issues such as the information and digital revolution, communication technology, virtualization, privatization and network economics that have affected all aspects of contemporary human life. Compared to the evolutionary changes of the previous periods of the city,

the talk of its revolutionary and urban transformations is fundamentally different from the past. We are talking about globalization and multicultural cities, about internationalization and cosmopolitanism, about the multiplicity of identities and thoughts, cities with electronic texture versus physical texture. We are talking about the monitor as a window and a password instead of a passport. And the sum of all this means the transformation of economic, cultural, social structures and fundamental change. These developments affect all countries - developed, emerging or less developed - and completely change the living conditions and habits of a large part of humanity, both in major world cities and in "ordinary cities" (Da Cunha and et al., 2012 quoted by Robinson 2006).

The dynamics of public spaces and related issues show that the success of these spaces cannot be examined through a single lens. Exploring the multidimensional nature of public spaces and the factors that affect their quality, Lang (2017) argues that design ideas and the management process of public spaces are most approved than others (accessibility, activity, comfort, vibrancy, and sociality). The management process of public spaces means how to create such spaces, protect and maintain them. Therefore, in the proposed research model (Figure 4), design ideas and management process in the group of native talents and access, activity, etc. are introduced as a global standard. The main purpose of the proposed model is that in planning the public spaces of cities, it is necessary to pay attention not only to the number of these spaces, but also to the unique requirements of different places, to avoid the same policy for all. Regarding public spaces, especially open public spaces, it is necessary to pay attention to the existing contexts in the city regarding social, economic, cultural and religious issues, therefore it is argued that to succeed in public spaces, planners must use a holistic approach to urban quality to avoid simple planning regulations and homogeneous standards (Mandeli, 2019). Therefore, it seems that urban management should be in search of unique public spaces. Spaces that are created through a wide range of roles and internal specialties. Spaces that, while meeting the human needs of the global era, also can compete with the public spaces of world cities. In this regard, planners should apply the principles of fully rational urban design in the production of public spaces in the framework of strategic spatial planning and practical management.

On the other hand, the development of cyberspace (Bastie, 2003, 110) in the global city affects consumption patterns and lifestyles. Such spaces have functions, some of them seem to overlap with the functions of urban space, in this case the development of the city makes sense with cyberspace. Just as industrialization and mechanical transportation shattered and reshaped old urban patterns, this shift from pre-electronic to cyberspace will surely reshape the urban landscape of the new century. These electronic spaces will lead to the disintegration of many traditional buildings and the reassembly of the remaining buildings with computer measures and telecommunications networks and some software, thus

these will produce unprecedented variables (Michel, 2001, 103). The emergence of concepts such as virtual communities is one of the phenomena that has revealed the ability of new communication and information networks to create new spaces or change the existing spaces of the city for human beings. According to some thinkers, with the advent of other virtual worlds, urban planning and the creation of objective spaces of the city have disappeared (Koolhaas, 1995) and from another point of view, the mass of digital technologies does not meet the needs of objective and physical spaces of the city (Grossman, 1995). Therefore, public spaces of the city need to provide virtual services to maintain invitations and vitality. It means providing facilities that, from both aspects of technical and design, can invite and keep contemporary human beings in the public space. Mobile Internet infrastructure and living room design or a way to use a mobile phone in public spaces are examples of this. Thus, information and communication technologies present new opportunities for urban planning. These opportunities are mainly due to the spatial changes caused by the use of this technology and related infrastructure, and separate cities from place constraints and allow urban residents to have wide access to a variety of needs. It has provided the possibility of presenting different patterns of urban planning based on new patterns of life and work apart from the previous limitations for urban planners.

It is now clear that information and communication technologies affect the place on many levels. Many political and economic leaders of globalization believe that culture creates a sense of distinction and difference, and this makes cities more desirable and helps them become more competitive. Thus, in creating this distinction, globalization preserves certain components of cities, such as their traditional language and music, and blends other components into composite forms in global forms (Zoukin, 2009). Therefore, there is a strong relationship between globalization patterns and cities in terms of structure, style, design or development (Kara, 2019). The reason for this is that changes in lifestyle, culture, tastes and preferences resulting from globalization tend to influence the way cities are designed and developed. In the meantime, providing public space must go beyond brutal functionalism and aesthetic concerns and improve the quality of urban life (Mandeli, 2019). In conclusion, cities and their micro-spaces can benefit positively from globalization. Cities can achieve better opportunities in the world by strengthening the competitive environment. Efforts to ensure that cities remain competitive during globalization require cities to have the right and effective decision-makers, organizations, and actors. The main emphasis is on gaining more global capital (Kara, 2019). In this regard, municipal officials will carry out activities that can develop cities, especially at the levels and standards that are possible, and attract more global investment (Global dynamics in Figure 4).

This article does not advocate or defend the same standard for spaces regardless of their local differences and talents, and acknowledges that global standards

should be used to enhance indigenous / local talent. But it is also noteworthy that man of the global age welcomes the positive changes of globalization in the search for an increase in the quality of life. The need to use globalization, especially in terms of people, products, ideas, culture and capital to design and positively develop cities and urban spaces are in a way that increases the standard of living and quality of People's lives (Kara, 2019). Thus, local planning managers are advised to adopt international standards of day, while paying attention to

local talents, to present design with international standards and qualities. City managers must manage public resources in such a way that these huge global assets can be entrusted to them. Among these, global/local interaction is the most important issue that will affect the quality of public spaces in global cities. This interaction takes place in the form of global/local dynamics, global standards, and inherent indigenous talents. Finally, the proposed research model is shown in Figure 4.

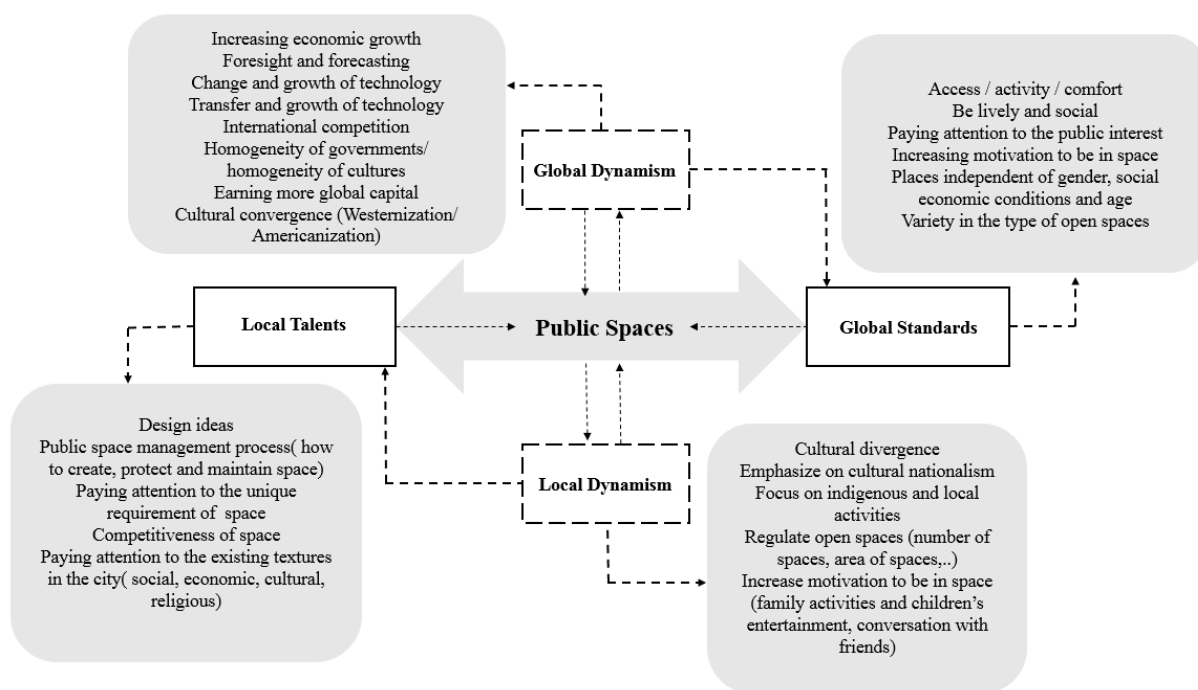


Fig. 4. Proposed research model: Global/local interaction and its impact on public spaces

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