

Abstract

My thesis deals with the relationship between modern information and digital technologies and contemporary architecture and urbanism. I do not study any direct impact of these technologies on the architectonic and urbanistic production as working or manufacturing means. I try to show social changes caused by technologies and their reflection in the environment created by people. However, I try to consider the relationship as interactive, which means that I do not perceive the urban country only as a fossil of cultural forms, but also as the power that contributes to forming. In order to depict the relationship, I found the use of the concept of the culture as a network of symbolic meanings to be the most suitable.

The thesis is divided into three main parts. In the first part, I introduce the development of the conception of culture and explain my own understanding of this phenomenon based on the symbolic interpretation of the culture. The second part of the thesis deals with the contemporary society. I explain the contemporary culture on the basis of the relationship between the sign and the symbol. On the basis of their dichotomy, I explain the terms of postmodernism, globalisation, glocalisation. The possibility of cohesion of modern societies in disintegration of unifying symbolic contents is one of the main issues studied. This ambiguity can be expressed in the architecture and urbanism. The final part of my thesis deals with the architecture and urbanism. Selected examples show the genesis of modern urbanised country and architecture and demonstrates their alienation and separation from older layers of the cultural country and towns. In the conclusion, I show that this caesura appears to be essential for creating the contemporary architecture and urbanism and also for their perception by the contemporary man and, on the other hand, that the awareness of and an attempt to exceed that enables to create the environment, which becomes a true home for the man.

Key words: culture, civilization, sign, symbol, city, urbanization, landscape