

Abstract

The topics of the bachelor thesis are the symbolic meanings connected to the representative architecture, and also the discussion and its participants that influence the process of creating new symbolic meanings. Representative buildings still pose symbols for members of the nation and help to establish the national identity. They also reflect historical events and are bearers of cultural memory, which is also besides other aspects created by political representatives. The subject of this research is the Reichstag building in Berlin, which, in the past, was associated with both positive and negative connotations in connection with the transformation of its appearance and function. The aim of my thesis is to outline the discussion that took place in the 1990s and to introduce its actors who gave the building its present appearance. The paper presents important turning points for the reconstruction, first being the colloquia on the topic of rebuilding of the Reichstag building and reconstruction requirements in the tender, and secondly the dispute over the cupola of the Reichstag and the artistic project "Wrapped Reichstag". By both of these events would be introduced the arguments for and against in order to describe how symbolic meanings should be attached to the building after reconstruction. In conclusion, the events of the 1990s influenced the perception of the Reichstag, which, thanks to its reconstruction, became a clearer symbol of the attributes associated with meanings like democracy or a new beginning in contrast to associations with the era of William II or the Nazi regime.