Abstract

The bachelor thesis "The Architecture of the Viennese and Budapest Parliament as a Reflection of Changes in the Political Climate" deals with the relationship between architecture and political changes of the second half of the 19th century, the time of birth of the so-called modern European nations. Political, economic and social changes have been reflected both in the style and in the decorative program of a number of parliamentary buildings. The thesis examines on the example of the architecture of the Viennese and Budapest parliamentary buildings, whether and how the new political and national arrangement and its associated ambitions were reflected in the architecture of the buildings. The Parliament building, which is a proof of the fundamental political and social changes, has become the announcer of these ambitions and their program. This legacy is expressed in the architectural layout, choice of style and decorations. The aim of the thesis is to compare the two Parliaments, so it is conceived as a comparative case study. It is divided into two chapters dealing with the Viennese and the Budapest Parliaments in the context of the political situation of the state and the cities in which they are located. The thesis concludes that each of the examine buildings is in its architectural design and the decoration program literally the embodiment of the social and political climate of its time. The Viennese Parliament, however, differs from its Budapest counterpart by its politically conditioned multinationality and neutrality, which originated in the national diversity of the monarchy. On the contrary, the Parliament in Budapest with its neo-Gothic, then nonclassical and rather romantic building style, declares the liberation from formal dependence on Vienna and its decoration program is literally a celebration of the Hungarian national identity.