

Fundamental field Architecture

Field of specialization Architecture

Habilitation thesis

The role of the architect in the conservation process of the authenticity of the urban patrimony

SUMMARY

Candidate

Lect. PhD. Arch. Iasmina Onescu

Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism,

Polytechnic University of Timisoara

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The role of the architect in the conservation process of the authenticity of the urban patrimony

The habilitation thesis “The role of the architect in protecting the urban heritage” presents the research fields and the study and work topics covered by the author in recent years, emphasizing the role of the architect in the various stages of research, understanding, design, marking personal contributions and future research directions.

The work begins by addressing the issue of heritage, showing that the protection of built heritage is a complex, multidisciplinary process that requires a holistic approach in a multidisciplinary team of specialists, a team in which the architect has a key role.

The first part of the thesis refers to the definition of perceptions in the protection of heritage on a macro scale and focuses mainly on the scientific achievements of the author. This chapter mentions the results obtained from the research carried out during the doctoral studies, research underlying this thesis, architectural perceptions in the field of diagnosis of historical structures, but also scientific approaches to case studies on restoration and consolidation projects for buildings. historical with different types of structure. The research efforts resulted in 26 scientific articles, including two scientific articles in ISI Arts & Humanities Citation Index indexed journals, with impact factor, a scientific article in Scopus-Copernicus indexed journals, three full-length articles in journals or recognized in related fields, two full-length studies published in collective volumes published by prestigious publishers, and 18 full-length publications in papers at scientific conferences on architecture, urbanism, landscaping, design and restoration, as well as related sciences, at international and national level (of which 12 indexed ISI Web of Science, and 3 indexed Scopus). The results of the research were disseminated by participating in 15 conferences. The author’s scientific articles currently have over 150 citations in Google Scholar, over 100 citations in Scopus and over 50 citations in Web of Science, respectively, and Hirsch’s personal index is 7 in Google Scholar, 6 in Scopus and 4 in Web of Science. In recognition of the research done so far, the author has been invited to become a reviewer for the Journal of Building Engineering, a journal with the impact factor 5.18, Q1 quartile.

In 2021, the research team of which the author is a part won an important international research contract, COST ACTION CA20139. For two years in a row, she received an invitation to hold a seminar on the vulnerability of buildings in the historic area of Timisoara in the international master’s program DYCLAM +, at the University Federico II di Napoli, Italy.

In 2022 she won a research grant for young researchers in Romania, a competition organized by the Romanian Academy of Scientists, in the field of seismic risk, as project

director.

All these achievements attest to the international recognition of the research carried out in the field of assessing the vulnerability of historic urban areas and the personal contribution made to the field.

The second part of the thesis focuses on professional achievements, illustrating the theme of building perceptions in architecture, on a micro scale and presenting a series of architectural projects representative of the author's training. It addresses topics such as the contemporaneity of the built heritage, artistic perceptions in historical spaces, functionality and architectural relations, urban and social landmarks, micro-communities within the city or the individual universe within the community.

During the years of graduating as an architect, the author worked in two design offices. In the first of these, Atelier Brevior, completed the internship period. Later, working in 3DSN Design Studio, she collaborated in the design of residential spaces, hotel spaces, interior design for homes, offices, hotels, etc. For a period of 2 years, she also collaborated with KUXA, coordinating the design of kitchen furniture for over 30 beneficiaries.

In collaboration with the 3DSN Design Studio architecture design office, a collaboration that is still taking place, she had the opportunity to be part of the design team of a single-family home that was nominated for the annual architecture awards organized by the Order of Architects Timiș in 2022, respectively at the awards of the Timișoara Architecture Biennale in 2020. These nominations attest to the fact that the projects carried out in the professional sphere are appreciated and valuable.

The third part of the habilitation work deals with the subject of theorizing perceptions, translated into representative academic and didactic achievements for the last years. This chapter addresses topics such as seismic vulnerability, the holistic process of restoration, the challenge of the creative process, the digitization of the creative process, but also the reverse perception. Also, the main activities such as workshops, study trips, etc. are highlighted, as well as international recognition through training mobility or participation in various events.

Starting with the 2015-2016 academic year, the author has carried out teaching and research activities at the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism, as a research assistant, and since 2021 she has obtained the position of lector through a competition, having two courses as a basic norm, Anti-seismic Architecture and Anti-seismic Urbanism.

Together, all the didactic and academic activity allows her to have a holistic approach on the profession of architect and to pass on in a multidisciplinary way the basics of architectural design, taking into account the principles of sustainable design, the principles of

earthquake design, respectively principles of heritage restoration and regeneration.

At the end of the paper, the author presents the proposal for the development of the university career, aiming to carry out research, visibility, internationalization, theorizing, teaching, guidance, coordination, management, creation and experimentation in the future. Last but not least, she clearly marks the future research directions for future candidates for doctoral studies in architecture, which are structured in four important categories for architectural heritage: vulnerability and risk, restoration and regeneration, urban strategies and multidisciplinary approaches.

In conclusion, by achieving the scientific, professional and academic objectives, the author considers that she will succeed in making an important contribution to the development of research in the field of architectural heritage protection, to a better professional training of architectural students, and to increasing international visibility. of the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism Timișoara, of the Research Center in Urbanism and Architecture, respectively of the Polytechnic University of Timișoara.

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