



RIGA TECHNICAL
UNIVERSITY

Ilze Miķelsone

VALUE SYSTEM IN THE ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE

Summary of the Doctoral Thesis



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DOCTORAL THESIS PROPOSED TO RIGA TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY FOR THE PROMOTION TO THE SCIENTIFIC DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF ARCHITECTURE

To be granted the scientific degree of Doctor of Architecture, the present Doctoral Thesis has been submitted for the defence at the open meeting of RTU Promotion Council on 30 October 2019, at the Faculty of Architecture of Riga Technical University, 6 Kipsalas Street, Room 433.

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DECLARATION OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

I hereby declare that the Doctoral Thesis submitted for the review to Riga Technical University for the promotion to the scientific degree of Doctor of Architecture is my own. I confirm that this Doctoral Thesis had not been submitted to any other university for the promotion to a scientific degree.

Ilze Miķelsone (signature)
Date:

The Doctoral Thesis has been written in Latvian. It consists of Introduction; 3 chapters; 9 sub-chapters; Conclusions; and 8 annexes. The total number of pages is 339. The bibliography contains 468 titles.

ANNOTATION

The aim of the Doctoral Thesis “**Value System in Architectural Practice**” is to determine the most significant contingent processes and intentional activities that determine value orientation in architectural practice in Latvia based on the analysis of research literature and the findings obtained in the course of empirical research.

The Thesis comprises the introduction, three chapters, conclusions, the list of references, and appendices.

In Chapter 1, “**Contributing Factors in Value Orientation of Architectural Practice**”, the most significant factors driving general changes in the field of architecture in global perspective are considered. It has been identified that many changes occur due to the change of focus in the professional value system, which, in its turn, is determined by value paradigm change in the society as a whole. The most important value contexts of architecture as a service are related to meeting the needs of individuals, and that issue is traditionally solved in the context of market economy, that is, in the context of service provider and service consumer relations. As these relations evolve into the organized processes and the number of participants in these processes keeps growing, interest reconciliation context is becoming more topical. In the context of needs, the changes determined by the **value factor ascribed** to architectre and architectural practice are analyzed. In the context of market change, the changes driven by the **demand factor** in architecture and architectural practice are considered. Within the interest reconciliation context, the changes driven by the **impact factor** in the architectural processes are researched.

Taking into consideration that it is becoming increasingly more apparent that the concept of common value orientation is unfeasible, the author analyzes the basis for formation of the conception of value, and, based on the main principles of axiology, interprets delineation of value orientation formation in the context of architectural practice, highlighting three categories shaping value orientation – **architectural concept, architectural result** and **the regulatory framework for the architectural practice**.

In Chapter 2, “**Development of Professional Value System in Chronological Perspective**”, the first and the second value orientation forming categories are analyzed – **architectural concept** and **architectural result**. The diversity, nature and scope of application of the architectural value concepts and theoretical framework are studied in a historical perspective. The most distinctive documented conceptions of value, value judgments and manifestations of value orientation in the world and in Latvia are considered in three periods: until the end of the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th and 21st century, identifying the differences in value criteria design, priorities and trends in communicating values to the general public.

In Chapter 3, **“Formation of Value System in Architectural Practice in Latvia”**, the third value orientation-forming category is analyzed in detail – **regulatory framework for architectural practice**. In this chapter, the author assesses interconnection between the architectural values and institutionalized control processes as well as analyzes process performance and its impact on practice. The structure of empirical research presented in sub-chapters illustrates different identified priorities that are initially set as the greatest values within the intuitional framework of each process. The choice of a definite practical process to be analyzed was made based on the research conducted in the theoretical part of the Thesis, results of the survey and expert interviews. It is the authorial interpretation regarding the most typical contexts and the current challenges in the general value orientation in the Latvian architectural practice.

In Sub-chapter 1 of Chapter 3, **“Value Orientation in the Cultural Policies of the Industry”**, functional analysis of the model of dissemination and management of architectural values in the area of culture policies is conducted. **In the practical part of research**, the specific insight into the ascribed value, demand and contributing factors of this formation type is provided by an in-depth analysis of professional awards. Conclusions on value orientation dissemination trends in industry value promotion and public communication are made.

In Sub-chapter 2 of Chapter 3, **“Regulatory Framework for Architecture and Practice”**, functional analysis of the model of dissemination and management of architectural values in the area of legal regulation of architecture and building processes is conducted. **In the practical part of research**, the specific insight into the ascribed value, demand and contributing factors of this formation type is provided performing the case study on territory development and planning and by analysis of professional further education programs. The conclusions on the interconnectedness between the planning documents based on the urban development scale value system and market conditions in the development of Mārupe private sector construction are made, and stakeholder issues in professional further education are recognized.

In Sub-chapter 3 of Chapter 3, **“Social Integration of the Conception of Value”**, functional analysis of the model of dissemination and management of practical values in the social process of value reconciliation is conducted. **In the practical part of research**, the specific insight into the ascribed value, demand and contributing factors is provided by detailed analysis of institutionalized value dissemination in architectural heritage management, architectural sketch competitions and social processes of interest reconciliation. The conclusions on the existing procedures within these processes, actual performance and their impact on architectural practice are made.

The opinions of practicing architects and industry experts on value orientation trends and the **role of management in value system formation in architectural practice** have been summarized. Finally, the conclusions made in the course of research on the issues of value dissemination and management, development, transformation and integration, as well as on the impact of the developed practical management instruments on value orientation formation in architectural practice have been systematized. The development tendencies characteristic of the profession of an architect have been determined, and the opportunities to integrate the research findings in further education methods promoting professional advancement of architects have been evaluated.

Development tendencies characteristic of the profession of an architect have been identified and the opportunities to integrate the conclusions made in the course of research within the methods of further architectural education promoting professional advancement have been evaluated.

Research results are reflected in five research papers that have been published in international peer-reviewed scientific publications, three research papers published in professional industry publications and one brochure. The results have been presented at 10 international conferences in Latvia and abroad.

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE DOCTORAL THESIS

Topicality of the Theme

Theoretical principles of architecture determine that value criteria interpreted within the cultural, economic and social contexts lie at the origins of architecture. In the human historical experience, architecture has manifested itself as the art of shaping the environment in urban planning and building volumes at various scales, providing a unique reflection of the conception of value. Reflections of the conception of architectural value are being constantly elaborated with illustrations of contemporary architectural value conceptions.

Documenting of the value judgments supplements the illustration of the implemented conception of architectural value. **The standard qualities, characteristic of a certain period, that an architectural object is supposed to possess or reach, provide the basis for experience, which becomes the ground for development of the individual and collective understanding of what is worth praise or criticism in architectural objects.** At the same time, in line with the global trends, the obtained architectural result ever more frequently illustrates a certain consensus reached by a compromise among the bearers of different conceptions of value. The accents in the formats of assessing architecture are changing, and the focus of attention on selection of the most outstanding architectural objects is being critically analyzed. Similar to the majority of European countries, in Latvia the aim defined in the architectural legislation – the right of every individual to live in a comfortable spatial environment – is not self-obvious, accessible to everyone and widely publicly manifested. **At the beginning of 2018, in the internationally recognized Davos Declaration, a general problem of low-quality built environment in Europe was publicly recognized.** The link between this problem and the process of architectural development was also recognized, determining it as an important element of *Baukultur*. An agreement on **the strategic meaning of high-quality architecture** not only in the special status territories but also in the periphery has been reached internationally at the political level.

A **support mechanism** with purposefully promoted value orientation and independent control is necessary for creation of high-quality built environment. The draft of the Law on Architecture, which started to be considered by the government of the Republic of Latvia in 2010 along with the establishment of a special working group, is just one of the attempts to qualitatively regulate the development of architecture with the entire body of effective normative documents. **Since 1991, a number of targeted models for dissemination and management of professional values of that kind have been functioning and developing in Latvia – institutional initiatives and structures that regulate, protect, assess, and control the elements of the architectural value system.**

The issue of low-quality built environment in Latvia is still present not only in the periphery, but often also at the important public objects, consuming inadequate amount of time and financial resources of all stakeholders. In the public setting, the quality of architectural solutions is considered to be the responsibility of the architect, disregarding the obstacle zone that exerts a destructive effect on the architectural intent and result quality. The principles of architectural policy for 2009–2015 mention a range of external problems, considering them the cause of low-quality architecture deforming value orientation of the professional environment and wider public. **A loosely defined role of the architect in the construction processes, the resulting critical lack of impact, deficiencies of the regulatory basis, excessive administrative load and other problems have been highlighted.** The research on the current state of affairs in the field of architecture conducted in Latvia provides non-flattering statistics regarding the entrepreneurial skills and remuneration.

As a response to the existing situation, the issues pertaining to industry management have come to the fore, and ever more independently on the attempts to control architecture, the attempts to control architectural practice are undertaken. The growing topicality of the architecture evolution process and the trend for architect's autonomy in the daily activities are reflected in the names of the drafts of the Law on Architecture drawn up in eight years. Initially, it was discussed as the Law on Architectural Quality, later as the Law on Architectural Practice, then as the Law on Architecture and the Law on Environment Quality and Architectural Practice. Taking into consideration the critique of the quality of architecture and architectural services, two approaches are used and developed in the contemporary architectural practice in an attempt to combat the consequences. The first approach is aimed at **protection of architectural values and quality assurance**, whereas the second approach focuses on **the mitigation of problems identified in practice management.**

The activities envisioned within both approaches are essentially aimed at the general provision of public rights and promotion of public welfare, and the provider of architectural service – the architect – is the most important target audience for these activities, simultaneously being the receiver of support, a working instrument and a medium. **In the current architectural research, the information on the topicalities of daily activities, which characterize significant interconnection between the essential dimensions of profession's value orientation with the environment conditions of the age, has not been systematically summarized.** The lack of information on the objective cause of change in value orientation creates the need for a functional audit of composition, dissemination and management of values.

Current Research on the Theme

In the research literature, values, understanding of values, attitudes and value orientation are analyzed from different perspectives and in different contexts. This theme is first considered in general, in context of historical world culture events [31], in relation to ethics [123], culture [122], conception of truth [135], [158], cognition and perception [84], development of social paradigms [12], [46], social orders and generational value systems [50], [57], [200]. A large part of research adopts a **universal human, cognitive development and philosophical perspective** in analyzing basic value-related issues.

In the 20th and 21st century, numerous theories of value categories and their close relation to human needs, perception and context were proposed and developed. Shalom H. Schwartz [252] wrote about the universal structure of values, in the 1950s Abraham Harold Maslow [229] and Max Scheler [128], [251] addressed the issues of value interpretation and needs hierarchy. An original theory of scientific axiology is laid in the studies on value by Robert Schirokauer Hartman and later interpretations of his works [51], [52], [199], [232]. The insights into the range of value research methods are provided in the works of Milton Rokeach [120], [121]. Value perception model developed by Professor of Psychology Clare W. Graves [192] explains the role of perception in value research, it also explains the culture of human interaction. Eugen Bruce Goldstein [331] compiled Encyclopedia of Perception. Integral theory of Ken Wilber [155], [156] and research on world culture values by political analyst Ronald Inglehart [200], [201] analyze value dimensions in regard to the interaction between individual and society, developing and interpreting a map of values [336]. Otto Sharmer, who developed Theory U, analyzed value-related paradigm change in practice management [133], [134]. Sandra Mathison compiled Encyclopedia of Evaluation concerning values in the representational and evaluation contexts [107].

Research on value orientation is **often connected with educational system theories**, regarding identity issues and integration related challenges in modern society, world view and culture awareness building [138], [279], [280], [344], [235], [236]. Many Latvian authors wrote about the philosophical aspects of the conception of value, for example, Pēteris Zeile [166]–[168], Igors Šuvajevs [262], Maija Kūle and Rihards Kūlis [86]. Professors of the University of Latvia (UL) Skaidrīte Lasmane, Augusts Milts and Andris Rubenis [90], and S. Lasmane [211] wrote about ethics; S. Lasmane and Jurgis Šķilters [212], [260] explored the issues of national identity; Elga Freiberga [189] and Larisa Zeltiņa [279], [280] studied the Latvian identity in the context of European values.

Cultural aspects considered in the global context widen the perspective of research on universal ethics and the Latvian identity. Peter Burke [8] wrote about cultural diversity, Jonathan Friedman [42] analyzed cultural identity within the global processes, literary scholar Pauls Daija [18] and Dr. art. Deniss Hanovs [197], [198]

studied cultural transfer and globalization processes in Europe and Latvia.

The principles of sociology may be considered one of the qualitative manifestations of the value context, these principles were analyzed in the works of Martin Albrow [1], Signe Dobelniece [26] and others [353]. Sociological research on values and social customs was conducted by UL professors in social psychology Ivars Austers and Maija Andersone [298], [299], as well as researchers of Riga Stradins University Ritma Rungule and Silva Senkāne [249]. Spodra Austruma [283] developed a voluminous research on values in the consumer society in Latvia within her Doctoral Thesis, Inga Pūre [289] studied the diversity of interests and their reconciliation. Sandra Veinberga [385] wrote about media environment and the role of communication in practical dissemination of value orientation.

With regard to the built environment and architectural values, the research papers are mainly discussed in relation to **some definite point of view**. A number of authors have been seeking for the answer to questions “what is architecture”, “what is the history of architecture” and “where architecture is going” [5], [16], [17], [94], [95], [154], [206], [238], [241]. These questions in general historical perspective are reflected in many anthologies of architecture [2], [37], [38], [110]. Architecture defined as **a value and fundamental principles of an autonomous art discipline** related to timeless knowledge about aesthetic principles was analyzed in book “*Vitruvius on Architecture*” [137] by Thomas Gordon Smith, where the author summarized “*Ten Books on Architecture*” [159] published by a Roman architect Marcus Vitruvius Pollio more than two thousand years ago.

Architectural theories, concepts and basic ideas laid down in manifests that emerged in the 20th century are summarized in the work of architectural theorists Charles Jencks and Karl Kropf [62], as well as other works by Charles Jencks [59]–[61] and in the overviews by Bernard Tschumi [147]. Theoretical principles of regionalism were analyzed by Kenneth Brian Frampton [188] and Henri Lefebvre [97]. Their ideas were supplemented by the theories proposed by Alexander Tzonis and Liane Lefaivre [138]. Vincent B. Canizaro conducted an in-depth research on the theory and practice of regionalism in architecture [13]. Modernity and modernism were theoretically and analytically studied by Albrecht Wellmer [161], K. Frampton [40], K. Frampton and Ashley Simone [41], as well as by Ch. Jencks [59], [60]. The issue of modernism and architecture in Latvia were addressed in the overviews by Jānis Lejnieks [218], [101] and the research developed for the needs of exposition “*Unwritten*” within 2014 Venice Biennale [222]. A vast body of literature is dedicated to the issue of identity in architecture. Stuart Hall analyzed cultural identity [48], [49], many authors studied identity change in the society [58], [131], [262], Hanss Scotte analyzed identity in modern architecture [253], A. Tzonis and L. Lefaivre – architectural identity in the global environment [96]. In Latvia, identity issues were addressed by architects Eižens Laube [214]–[216], Jānis Krastiņš [209], Ivars Strautmanis [140], architectural

journalist Vladimirs Frolovs [190], and others [326], highlighting various nuances of human search for identity and differences in understanding of the concept of identity in the course of time.

Analyzing the basic values, it is necessary to evaluate **the typological standard of architecture** developed by the authors of an internationally acknowledged handbook of architecture, German engineers Ernst Neufert and Peter Neufert [113], which was published in 1936 and was revised and supplemented many times. The research literature on the principles of architecture [39], [113], [163], creative process [93], [270], criteria and quality of architecture [182], [269], [276], the issues of criteria incompatibility [271] and architecture assessment [15], [70], [105], [107], [146], [248], [259] is analyzed within the framework of theoretical principles. Aesthetic dimension is investigated in the work by Vladimirs Kincāns “Estētikas pamati” (Foundations of Aesthetics) [64], in the works by Valds Šusts on perception of space and composition [144] and in popular-scientific writing by Umberto Eco on the history of concepts of beauty and ugliness [33], [34].

In the context of value conception, which employs the factor of ascribed value as its prerequisite, any text is so closely connected with a **concrete reality** that a definite context, working language and author’s personality become essential factors in the analysis of descriptions. Considering the architectural result as the final product of cultural, social or commercial values of a group, the literature also addressed the modes of perception, i.e. how authors treat architecture and in what terms one can think about architecture – from the point of view of a philosopher [217], [243], [244], designer [93], emotional aesthete [256], [257], using a complex classification of the range of measures [176], [196], [258], [270] and in other ways. Diversity of value judgments allows including only the most typical ones in the list. Philosophical studies on contextualism, meaning and architectural language in Latvian were published by a philosopher with a degree in architecture Jānis Taurens [145], [263]–[266].

Analyzing the conception of architectural values, many Latvian and foreign authors adopt **poetic, emotionally interpretive and tactile materiality approach**, which originates in internal emotional experience and individual vision. The work of French philosopher Gaston Bachelard “*Poetics of the Space*” [4] is still considered one of the most poetic and lyrical documented views on a house. G. Bachelard maintains that the opinions of an individual about houses are shaped by their thoughts, memories and dreams. The aspects of tactile sensations, atmosphere of space and materiality were profoundly discussed by a Finish architect Juhani Pallasmaa [116], [239], in turn, Swiss architect Peter Zumthor wrote about the role of personal, deeply internal resource rooted interpretation in the profession of architect as an elitist trade [17]. In book “*Thinking Architecture*” [17], P. Zumthor discusses motivation and achievements in architecture as a creative act in which the architectural work originates and goes beyond any historical and technical knowledge. Architect Aldo van Eyck [272]

emphasized that poetry and human nature are the greatest values in architecture, V. Šusts [261] wrote about houses and comfort.

A totally different approach is adopted in the research **on interconnection between understanding of space and external environment** – postmodernism, capitalism, globalization, consumerism and neoliberalization processes in the society. At the turn of the 20th and 21st century such issues as the role of the conception of space in theoretical research and different interpretations of the notion of space within different conceptions gained momentum in the scientific discussion [150], [151]. The growing complexity of decoding the conception of value is attested in the works of Martin Albrow [1], Robert Hollinger [55], Nigel Watson [160], Ronald Inglehart [57], [200]–[203], Maximilian Weber [152], Steven Miles [111] and Roger Keil [207], where a social and cultural geography approach has been developed taking into consideration the “spatial turn” taken by the social and cultural theory. Editor Mike Crang in his book “*Thinking Space*” [16] also summarized a large number of works by social theorists, where complicated and differentiated geographical notions and metaphors are used to describe the world.

The issue of architectural values is addressed in the works of local classics, Professors Eižens Laube [214]–[216], Pauls Kundziņš [82], and Ivars Strautmanis [139]–[141]. “Theoretical Papers and Manifests of the Latvian Architects in the 20th Century” [104] compiled by Jānis Lejnieks and Zanda Redberga is the most significant source of evidence on the conception of value in the Latvian architecture. The book provides a summary of important, specific opinions of the historical period of such architects as Eižens Laube (1908, 1930, 1934), Pēteris Bērzkalns (1930, 1938), Ivars Strautmanis (1973), “MĀJA Group” (1991), Ēriks Fogels (1970), Jānis Krastiņš (1983) and Valdis Šusts (1990) about the architectural language, national and regional identity, the relationship between the old and the new. **The view of the environment where Latvian architecture evolved** is studied also in other research papers by academicians in architecture Jānis Krastiņš, Ivars Strautmanis, and Jānis Dripe [78], [79]. Literary historian Pauls Daija studied value formation as constructed reality in the context of cultural transfer, particularly with respect to the role and contribution of the Baltic Germans to the early Latvian literature and culture in general [18]. This issue was also analyzed in the joint work by Prof. Jānis Krastiņš and Prof. Ojārs Spārītis on Riga architecture mirroring the European culture during eight hundred years [75], and in their joint work with Imants Lancmanis on German architects in Latvia [76].

“Latvieša māja” (Latvian House) published in 2014 is one of the most comprehensive modern studies on the Latvian lifestyle in relation to housing with regard to the origins and reflection of **the local value conception tradition** in the Latvian built environment; it covers the period from the 13th century up to present [83]. Folklorist, historian and ethnographer Janīna Kursīte in her research on values analyzed the views on the Latvian house in six longer historical periods. The scholar

stressed that erecting a house, maintaining the house and its surroundings are an element of human identity that characterizes a person both as an individual and as a member of a group – family, social class, nation to which a person belongs. In her book, she pays tribute to the opinions of ethnographers, architects and historians and thoroughly investigates national housebuilding, not only as the physical activity and practice of putting building elements together, but also as the act of creation of the world, assessing it through the prism of folklore, mythology and symbolism. An important statement on the situational values in various periods of the Latvian history is made in collective monograph “Latvijas arhitektūra no senatnes līdz mūsdienām” (Latvian Architecture from Ancient Times until Present) [79]. Jānis Lejnieks studied the views of his generation on architectural practice in Latvia in the 20th century starting with the post-WWII period until the turn of the 21st century in monograph “Patiesa forma. Tīrs stils. Modris Ģelzis. Arhitekts.” (True Form. Pure Style. Modris Ģelzis. Architect) [101]. **Value judgments, attitudes and orientation typical of the time** are discussed in many other books by J. Lejnieks [98]–[104].

In the last 20 years, the descriptions of built environment and the most characteristic seminal architectural objects of the time demonstrating the values of our country were published in voluminous publications [54], [68] and periodicals. Descriptions in the documents on annual architectural awards, competitions and their selection criteria, as well as the selection in the Latvian Culture Canon [348], can be added to this corpus. **In the area of research on the architectural cultural-historical heritage** historian Mārtiņš Mintāurs conducted an in-depth research taking into consideration public and state attitudes and the aspects of cultural politics in different periods [112]. Important documents on heritage were also summarized by other researchers [205], [291] and the representatives of the National Cultural Heritage Board [119], specifically by the Head of the Board, architect Juris Dambis [19], [20].

The issues and topicalities pertaining to architectural practice and conception of value in relation to **architectural processes** in Latvia were documented in a number of contemporary publications by architects-publicists Vents Vīnbergs, Ieva Zībārte and others [157], [169]–[171], [190], [194], [222], [386]–[388]. A few surveys published on the issue may be considered another source for research on modern value orientation, for example, a public opinion poll “What is good architecture?” conducted by architectural bureau “Sarma un Norde” in 2006 in three target groups [391], an annual voluntary questionnaire for architects run at architectural portal “a4d” concerning the most significant events of the year [296], and the survey conducted by the Latvia Association of Architects in 2013 on the status of the profession of an architect in the country and the setting of operational priorities [346].

In the history of architectural theory, the issues concerning the praiseworthy or reprehensible matters happening with the architectural object are widely and actively discussed, whereas **the challenges associated with these objects** are largely

disregarded. Since the turn of the 21st century, more and more studies dedicated to the issues related to architectural practice appeared, a range of studies has also addressed the environment where architecture evolves. Management of architectural processes or “architecture of architecture” has been the focus of interest of many architecture scholars.

Practice is analyzed as an inherent element of architect’s profession [142], [149], [273], [274], as a platform of process management and competition [25], [65], [68], [115], [220], and as a range of practical issues related to various condition induced changes. David Oakley wrote about radically different value orientation conditions in the process of architecture evolvement in view of cultures in change [114]. Hossein Sadri wrote about respecting human rights in spatial environment and about the impact these principles have on both the environment and professional practice [125].

In many literary sources on the architectural practice processes, special attention is paid to the **aspect of stakeholder cooperation**. The growing impact the public has on architecture is particularly widely analyzed in the research literature with regard to the civil society and planning, mainly considering the power factor rather than the consequences or the obtained result [63], [204], [233]. In the research on architecture evolvement processes, scholars mention the growing demand for interaction, communication and marketing skills [53], [73], [153], discuss varying perspectives in the architectural processes [91], [182], [183], [245], [276]–[277] and make references to the related research on public rights provision and control [127], [219], [221], [234], [328], [368]. The book by British geographers Rob Imrie and Emma Street “*Architecture Design and Regulation*” [56] is an important source promoting understanding of the interests of growing stakeholder groups and normative paradigm.

Realization of cooperation inevitably influences **the forms of impact**. Previously, the research specifically on the chronological changes in the contributing factors in architectural processes has not been performed, however, many authors showed profound interest in the issue. Robert Greene in his book “48 Laws of Power” [45] provides a comprehensive overview of a thousand-year long history of power. The relationship between ideology and architecture has been addressed by many researchers [106], [340], these issues were also discussed at international conference “*Architecture & Ideology*” [228] in Belgrade in 2008. Albena Yaneva [164], [165] analyzed power and control as a complex problem of the contemporary architecture. A. Yaneva mapped the controversies in the development of significant architectural objects, developed an actor-network approach methodology and established a special study program for architecture students at the University of Manchester [278].

Architectural practice development strategies were captivatingly analyzed by Prof. Eduard Sancho Pou in his work “*Function follows strategy. Architects’ Strategies from the Fifties to the Present*” [126]. He investigated how **marketing, politics and social data** influence architectural design and design process. Professor of Yale University Peggy Deamer in ok “*Architecture and Capitalism: 1845 to the Present*” [22]

comprehensively analyzed economic process related challenges in architecture. The author summarized architectural experience in dealing with economic situation induced challenges in different periods and in different countries, as well as analyzed the relationship between economics and architectural design.

“Neo-Liberalism and the Architecture of the Post Professional Era” published in 2018 presenting the summary of international research compiled by an editor H. Sadri [124] provides insights into **great changes in the value accents of the architectural design practice**. The work highlights the impact of neoliberal policies and real estate market on the architectural and urban development practice. It is maintained that at present practice is experiencing transition from the age of “professionalism” to the age of “post-professionalism”. The collection of essays published in 2015, *“The Architect as Worker: Immaterial Labor, the Creative Class, and the Politics of Design”* [21], offers insights into **daily architectural activities**, trying to establish the connection and interrelation between the work of an architect, value and creative pleasure, reflecting on the contemporary foundations of architecture. The work addresses the following vital issues of architectural practice: architectural practice theories and the essence of design, categorization of immaterial and creative work, the link of professional labor force with the requirements of BIM (*Building Information Modeling*) approach, architectural entrepreneurship, architectural practice ethics and remuneration opportunities.

The necessity to implement systemic and curriculum-related reforms of the education system to respond to the most typical **global challenges** of the 21st century was substantiated by Charles Fadel, Maya Bialik, Bernie Trilling, the researchers of the Center for Curriculum Redesign, in their extensive study “Four-Dimensional Education” [36]. Transformation of professional education was studied by Lori Brown [180], the challenges related to the skills developed at the university and the requirements of the labor market were considered by Barbara Golter Heller [334] and other authors [143], [181]. The stages of professional education development and the main reference points in Latvia were analyzed in “The Oldest University in the Baltics – Ages and Personalities” [132]. The structural framework of professional further education is defined in the regulations of the Architect’s Council of Europe [400]. Since 2007, many comprehensive professional research papers were published on the initiative of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia dedicated to the aspects of industry practice, summarizing and analyzing statistical data in many categories [175], [186], [220], [275]. The main conclusions made in the recent industry reviews attest that presently there is **a close connection between the unsatisfactory quality of architecture and trends of architectural practice**.

The existing research on the theme includes a vast body of literature and studies on the conception of value, where the phenomenon of architecture is seen as a set of elements with changing priorities in knowledge, skills and communication dimensions.

In the research on architectural practice environment in Latvia in the 21st century, the circumstances under which the main values of architecture lose their position as priorities in architectural practice have been identified but have not been sufficiently researched. The prerequisites of value orientation change, which emerge in the course of interaction between the main professional value principles of architecture and the circumstances where they evolve, have not been previously assessed. That actualizes the need to evaluate the circumstances having an impact on the work of an architect and intended prerequisites in the historical and modern contexts. The topicality of the problem determined the choice of the theme, research object and research aim of the Doctoral Thesis.

The object of the research is value system in architectural practice in the context of formation of value orientation.

The aim of the research is to determine the most significant contingent processes and intentional activities that determine value orientation in architectural practice in Latvia.

The tasks to achieve the aims are as follows:

- to consider theoretical framework in the research literature on value analysis methodology, the main value sub-systems forming architectural practice and the factors contributing to value orientation in e architectural practice;
- to summarize manifestations of the main factors contributing to value orientation in the built environment and architectural practice in chronological order;
- to organize individual, in-depth and semi-structured expert interviews with architectural practitioners from senior generations on the circumstances forming value orientation in different periods;
- to compare information on the most important circumstances that have influenced the professional value system in global and local perspective since 1991;
- to determine the main forms of intentional value orientation in architectural practice in Latvia and evaluate the disciplinary measures developed to achieve the aims set in the architectural practice related to these forms;
- to conduct functional analysis of the models of dissemination and management of definite characteristic typological values within architectural practice for the period from 1991 to 2017, obtaining compatible results for determining interconnection between the contributing factors of value orientation, formation of value orientation and professional qualification advancement;
- to poll practicing architects in order to discover their opinions on the priorities in value orientation in the modern architectural practice and on the most significant obstacles in the approbation of value criteria;
- to poll practicing architects in order to discover their opinions on the impact of administrative and social processes on practice in the context of reconciliation of stakeholder interests;

- to draw conclusions on interconnection between the intentional formation of value orientation and the factors contributing to value orientation in modern architectural practice;
- using the data obtained within the research “Opportunities for Improvement of Professional Further Education Program”, to integrate and synthesize the gained results in the conclusions on future professional further education development opportunities.

Research Methods

The theoretical framework of the Doctoral Thesis is formed by the research literature, articles, publications and documents published in different countries, including the EU countries and Latvia, as well as Internet resources. Based on the theoretical analysis of research literature and adopting the systems analytics approach, an empirical research is conducted, using the following research methods:

- comparative analysis is used for:
 - analysis of literature on the application of value research methods;
 - analysis of the data on the history of development of value orientation and its contributing factors;
 - analysis of strategic industry documents, regulatory legislative enactments and documents within the institutionalized value orientation systems – in the segment of awards, urban development and planning, architectural heritage management, competitions and within interest reconciliation procedures;
 - analysis of survey results;
- visual comparative analysis is used to determine the factors contributing to environment identity in field inspection of the housing development in Riga District;
- secondary analysis of the previous research data is used in the research of the given research theme;
- Phronetic Planning Research proposed by Bent Flyvbjerg is used to concurrently consider theoretical arguments, methodological guidelines and the cases of practical application;
- a survey of architects practicing in Latvia on professional further education (297 respondents, of which 241 chartered architects);
- a survey of architects practicing in Latvia on the topicalities of their practice and value orientation (177 respondents);
- a survey of experts through individual, in-depth and semi-structured interviews (sample of 14 respondents);
- a survey of architects practicing in Latvia on the reconciliation of stakeholder interests (40 respondents);

- graphic and analytical processing and interpretation of results and data obtained in the course of research.

The terms applied in the Doctoral Thesis are used in their established sense, using various reference sources as the basis for definition, in some cases supplementing their conceptual content with interpretations relevant in the context of the present Thesis. The terms in the Thesis are used in the following sense.

Architectural practice – activities in the field of architecture, including education, research, creative processes, design, administration and management. Within the Thesis, the term “architectural practice” denotes architectural ideas, the total of result and evolution conditions and modern conceptions of value related thereto, value criteria and the regulatory framework for the architectural practice.

Value system – conditionally analyzed body of society-related value aspects and profession-related value categories that determine diverse prerequisites of architectural evolution.

Value aspects – criteria of value system research, within this Thesis, the terms “conception of value” and “value orientation” are used. **Value orientation** – a deliberation or action aimed at a definite purpose, the focus of a certain activity on definite values as priority. **Conception of value** – the state, in which the essence, content, meaning of some aspect of architecture or professional practice is perceived and understood in a definite way.

Categories forming value orientation – the total of ideas, criteria and regulatory enactments that a person or a group of people have tried to consistently realize and implement in their activities with an aim to reach a definite result in architectural practice. Within the meaning of the Thesis, categories forming value orientation include architectural idea, architectural result and the regulatory framework for architectural practice. **Architectural concept** – conceptual framework of values that is seen as a gold standard of qualities an architectural object is supposed to reach. Within the meaning of the Thesis, these are manifestation of concepts, judgments, ideas, manifests that reflect the rationale of architectural activities performed in a certain period of time. **Regulatory framework for the architectural practice** – obligatory or conventional course of measures and activities implemented in the architectural practice in order to establish, promote or protect definite architectural object related values. **Architectural result** – an architectural object developed within a set of definite value criteria.

Value orientation forming processes – external circumstance induced prerequisites, which may potentially change the accents of professional value orientation in architectural practice in terms of degree of their importance.

Formation of value orientation – the way how activity(ies) are purposefully organized in the current architectural practice in order to influence value orientation

in a definite direction (cultural policies, legal regulatory framework for architecture and practice, value reconciliation within administrative and social processes).

Scientific novelty of the Doctoral Thesis

The Doctoral Thesis presents a theoretical generalization on the issues of value conception, attitudes and orientation in the architectural practice and identification of regularities in contingent and intentional formation of value orientation. The data summarized in the Thesis have not been previously collected and analyzed in their totality. The research results include conclusions on the current trends in value orientation in the Latvian architectural practice.

Practical significance of the Doctoral Thesis

The results obtained in the Thesis and the data base developed in the course of research present a scientifically validated source of reference on the value conception based architectural practice, which may be useful for any architectural student, practicing architect or any other interested party. The developed Thesis presents a theoretical and methodological basis that allows developing recommendations on the curriculum and action plan for professional further education.

Approbation of research results

The course of research and its results have been reported at a number of international and local scientific conferences, as well as published in scientific journals, collections of research papers and industry publications.

Publications

1. **Miķelsone, I.** Custom-Made Patchwork Landscape: Entrepreneurial and Private Regionalism. *Science – Future of Lithuania = Mokslas – Lietuvos Ateitis*, 2014, Vol. 6, No. 3, pp. 290–302. ISSN 2029-2341. e-ISSN 2029-2252. Available at: doi:10.3846/mla.2014.41.
2. **Miķelsone, I., Treija, S.** Quantitative and Qualitative Parameters of Awards in Architecture and Construction Industries of Latvia. *Science – Future of Lithuania = Mokslas – Lietuvos Ateitis*, 2015, Vol. 7, No. 1, pp. 89–100. ISSN 2029-2341. e-ISSN 2029-2252. Available at: doi:10.3846/mla.2015.724.
3. **Miķelsone, I.** Architectural Competitions as an Instrument for Heritage Protection: the Dynamics of Competition Taxonomy. *Journal of Architecture and Urbanism*,

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4. **Miķelsone, I.** Methodology in Attitudes Assigned to Architecture as Distinctly Regional. *Architecture and Urban Planning*, 2016, No. 11, 2016, pp. 43–48. ISSN 1691-4333. e-ISSN 2255-8764. Available at: doi:10.1515/aup-2016-0006.
5. **Miķelsone, I.** Apbalvojumu eklektika arhitektūras un būvniecības nozarē Latvijā. *Latvijas Būvniecība*, 2015, Nr. 3, 2.–7. lpp. ISSN 1691-4058.
6. **Miķelsone, I., Ģelzis, K.** Padomju okupācijas upuru memoriāls. *Latvijas Arhitektūra*, 2015, Nr. 119, 74.–75. lpp. ISSN 1407-4923.
7. **Miķelsone, I.** The Role of Social Engagement in the Development of Significant Architectural Objects. *Architecture and Urban Planning*, 2017, No. 13, pp. 6–14. ISSN 1691-4333. e-ISSN 2255-8764. Available at: doi:10.1515/aup-2017-0001.
8. **Miķelsone, I.** Būvprojektu ekspertīze un tās izaicinājumi. *Latvijas Būvniecība*, 2017. Available at: www.buvniekupadome.lv/likumdosana.
9. **Miķelsone, I.** (ed.) *Latvijas arhitektūras politika 2020*. Rīga, 2019. 72 lpp. ISBN 9789934198298.

Reports at conferences

1. **Miķelsone, I.** Tradition Versus Modernity in Regional Architecture. *Rīga Technical University 54th International Scientific Conference*, Latvia, Rīga, 16 October 2013.
2. **Miķelsone, I.** Methodological Pluralism in Regionalism Research. *Rīga Technical University 55th International Scientific Conference*, Latvia, Rīga, 14–15 October 2014.
3. **Miķelsone, I.** Custom-Made Patchwork Landscape: Entrepreneurial and Private Regionalism. *Science – Future of Lithuania = Mokslas – Lietuvos Ateitis*, Lithuania, Vilnius, 14–15 February 2014.
4. **Miķelsone, I.** Architecture 'Actors' by Actor-Network Theory (ANT) Approach. *Rīga Technical University 56th International Scientific Conference*, Latvia, Rīga, 14–15 October 2015.

5. **Miķelsone, I.** Quantitative and Qualitative Parameters of Awards in Architecture and Construction Industries of Latvia. In: *Science – Future of Lithuania = Mokslas – Lietuvos Ateitis*, Seselgis, Lithuania, Vilnius, 14–15 February 2015.
6. **Miķelsone, I.** Vērtīguma hierarhija Rīgas Vēsturiskajā centrā. Strēlnieku laukuma piemērs, *R. Šmēlinga konference*, Latvia, Riga, 29 October 2015.
7. **Miķelsone, I.** Regional Features of Public Discussion in Architecture. *Riga Technical University 57th International Scientific Conference Book*, Latvia, Riga, 13 October 2016.
8. **Miķelsone, I.** Selling of Design: Evolving Typology of Architectural Strategies in Latvia. *Riga Technical University 58th International Scientific Conference Book*, Latvia, Riga, 14 October 2017.
9. **Miķelsone, I.** The Study on Value Hierarchy in Architecture. *Riga Technical University 58th International Scientific Conference Book*, Latvia, Riga, 12 October 2017.
10. **Miķelsone, I.** Arhitektūras profesionālās tālākizglītības programma un tās pilnveides iespējas. *Latvijas Arhitektu savienības 21. kongress*, Latvija, Riga, 20 April 2018.

The Doctoral Thesis consists of the introduction, three chapters and conclusions, the list of references including 468 entries in the Latvian and English language.

In order to illustrate the textual data, figures from personal archive of the author of the Thesis and other sources are used. The figures that do not have a source reference in the legend are created by the author of the Thesis.

STRUCTURE OF THE DOCTORAL THESIS

INTRODUCTION

1. Contributing Factors in Architectural Practice Value Orientation

- 1.1. Factor of Ascribed Value in the Context of Needs
- 1.2. Demand Factor in the Context of Market Change
- 1.3. Impact Factor in the Context of Interest Reconciliation

2. Development of Professional Value System in Chronological Perspective

- 2.1. Formation of Value Orientation until the End of the 19th Century
- 2.2. Development of Value Orientation in the 20th Century
- 2.3. Dissemination of Value Orientation in the 21st Century

3. Formation of Value System in the Architectural Practice in Latvia

- 3.1. Value Orientation in the Cultural Policies of the Industry
- 3.2. Regulatory Framework for Architecture and Practice
 - 3.2.1. Regulatory Enactments in Development of New Territories
 - 3.2.2. Professional Further Education Program
- 3.3. Social Integration of the Conception of Value
 - 3.3.1. Architectural Heritage Management
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CONCLUSIONS

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Information about the research “Opportunities for Improvement of Professional Further Education Program”

Appendix 2. Questionnaire for Architects “Value Orientation of an Architect’s Practice”

Appendix 3. Survey Results

Appendix 4. Expert Interview Questions

Appendix 5. Interviewed Experts

Appendix 6. Summary of Expert Interview Results

Appendix 7. Questionnaire for Architects “Reconciliation of Stakeholder Interests in the Latvian Architectural Practice”

Appendix 8. Survey Results

CHAPTER 1. CONTRIBUTING FACTORS IN VALUE ORIENTATION OF ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE

Chapter 1 “Contributing Factors in Value Orientation of Architectural Practice” is mainly dedicated to categorization of the factors contributing to value orientation in the contexts related to architectural practice. The most significant challenges and the main factors that cause the general shift in value orientation accents in the field of architecture and the built environment on the global scale are considered.

Formation of value orientation in the built environment is influenced by a great number of factors, however, ascribed value, demand and impact are three main factors. Summarizing information on the most significant factors contributing to architectural practice – ascribed value, demand and impact – it has been discovered that all three factors may be analyzed only in the context of definite value conceptions. The concept of values is one of the oldest questions humanity tried to reflect on, and from scientific point of view, axiology or the study of value is the most comprehensive framework for analyzing values, where the subjects of value are classified into ideas, things and people (Fig. 1.1).

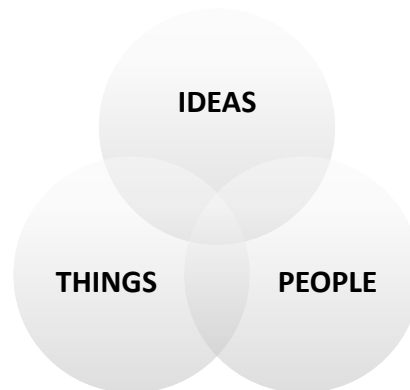


Fig. 1.1. Main principles of axiology in the analysis of factors contributing to value orientation.

It has been concluded that the categories studied and classified by axiology are manifested and lose their neutrality in the attitudes developed under the impact of the emotional states of an individual, socio-economic experience and definite traditions. All three factors (Fig. 1.2) – independently or in interaction – may influence value orientation in relation to:

- ideas that exist in architectural practice;
- things that exist in architectural practice;
- people who deal with architectural practice.

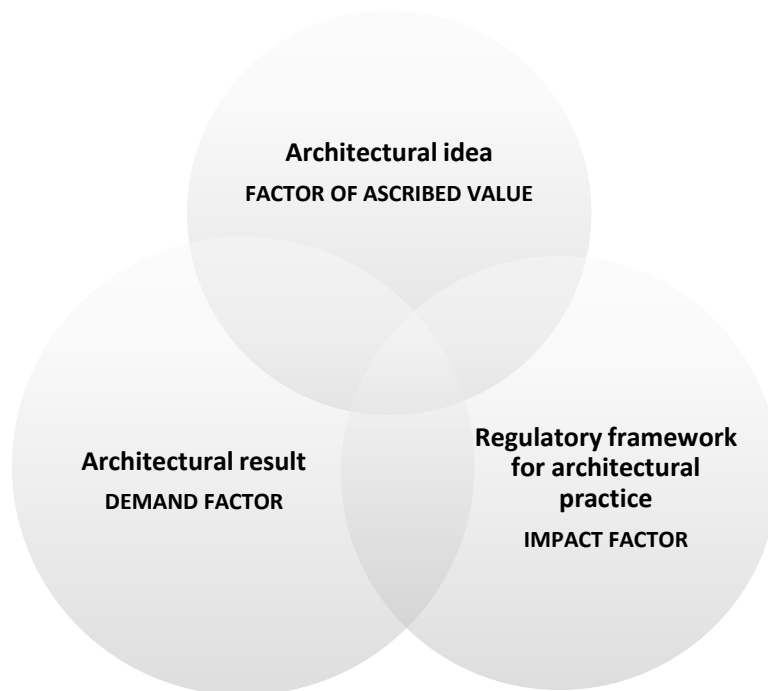


Fig. 1.2. Interpretation of interaction among value categories based on the main principles of axiology in the analysis of factors contributing to value orientation in architectural practice.

Sub-chapter 1 of Chapter 1 assesses the factor of ascribed value in the context of needs. The author analyzes the structure of value basis and summarizes information on the conditions upon which the ascribed value forms ideas about values. Based on the main principles of axiology, the author interprets the delineation related to the architectural practice context for analysis of value orientation formation and defines three categories: architectural idea, architectural result and regulatory framework for the architectural practice. It has been concluded that **the factor of ascribed value** in various aspects generally characterizes the person's ability to perceive and understand definite value factors differently, ascribing them different priority. The conception of value is the ideas about the types and meaning of value in the value system of a concrete individual or social group, it may differ depending on the historical development stage of a socio-political system and its specifics. The criterion of meaning forms the basis of value, which can be considered only comparatively.

Sub-chapter 2 of Chapter 1 evaluates the demand factor in the context of market change. The author summarizes information on the global phenomenon of consumerism and consumer society, which, on the one hand, provides the opportunity to choose, but on the other hand, imposes values. It has been concluded that **the demand factor** with regard to value orientation is mainly related to the result obtained in the course of architectural practice. In the context of market economy and consumer society, architecture is becoming a commodity and design practice is connected with service provision under competition.

Sub-chapter 3 of Chapter 1 analyzes the impact factor in the context of interest reconciliation. It has been concluded that the **impact factor** is actualized in the environment formed by many factors, many opinions, and different views. The needs that lie at the basis of values have not changed in the course of history, but the ways in which these needs are satisfied have. The relationships that exist in the modern architectural practice get progressively transformed into organized processes, and the need to assess opinions and simultaneously process them emerges regarding the service element of architecture. Considering practice in general, especially in conditions of market economy induced scarcity of resources, the idea of interest reconciliation logically leads to the question about rights and opportunities to represent one's values, about planned and strategic approach to meeting some interests, about forms of impact and hierarchy of impact, as well as the influence of the impact factor on value orientation in architectural practice in general.

CHAPTER 2. DEVELOPMENT OF PROFESSIONAL VALUE SYSTEM IN CHRONOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

Chapter 2 is structured chronologically. In this chapter, it is analyzed how value communication has changed in the course of time using architecture as a medium. The idea of architecture's worth is analyzed as a category of value orientation formation in the historical perspective, considering the diversity, nature and dissemination channels of the concept, criteria and theoretical principle of the architectural values.

The author summarizes the typical documented conceptions of value, value attitudes, and manifestations of value orientation before the 20th century, in the 20th century and at the beginning of the 21st century in Latvia and in the world, identifying the differences in the composition of value criteria, priorities and tendencies in explaining values to the public. The tendencies in division of value dissemination between architectural value management and practice value management have been identified.

In **Sub-chapter 1 of Chapter 2** the main prerequisites of value orientation formation until the end of the 19th century are considered.

In **Sub-chapter 2 of Chapter 2** the diversity of value attachment and the main architectural theories of the 20th century are considered.

In **Sub-chapter 3 of Chapter 2** the modern contribution at the turn of the 21st century is determined, the most significant evidence and publicly approved value related documents are analyzed. The most widely known types of manifests of architectural values and their current applications have been identified (Fig. 2.1).

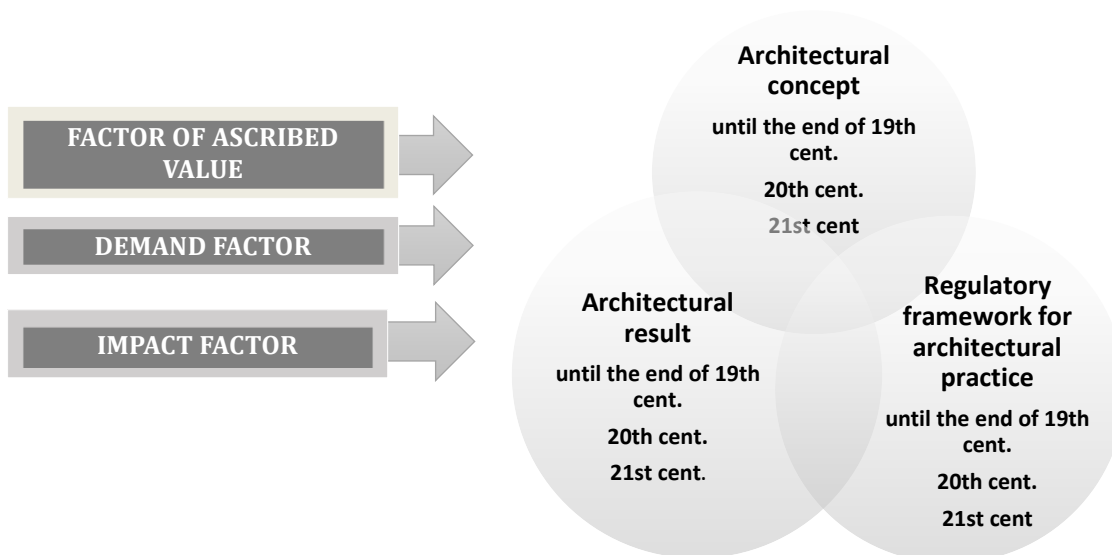


Fig. 2.1. Analysis of the factors contributing to value orientation in the categories of value orientation until the end of the 19th century, in the 20th century and 21st century.

Value conception heritage is passed over to the next generations in a variety of ways: as ideas, buildings, and as empirical knowledge, competences and skills. Each period is characterized by distinct people and events that contributed to formation of the main value principles of the architectural and professional practice, traditions and the most characteristic viewpoints. In the course of research, it has been observed that in the chronological perspective value orientation in architectural practice until the end of the 19th century, in the 20th century and 21st century was manifested differently. The main differences have been identified in value recognition and criteria accents. The modes of interaction between the commissioner, the architect and the wider public also differ, as well as their views shaping architecture and practice.

In all periods, **the ascribed value** or the ideology dominating in architecture is closely related to the needs, opportunities and conceptions regarding real estate development and its meaning within the value system of a definite individual or social group. In the history of European architecture, a large corpus of arguments concerning the ascribed value has been collected. The factors of ascribing meaning in real estate development **by the end of the 19th century** were mainly influenced by the way of life typical of a certain age, types of employment, interests of powers and superpowers, and territorial rearrangement. Architecture is characterized by stylistic diversity. The dominating ideas of the **20th century architecture** were influenced by various attempts to explicate architecture intellectually and conceptually and by emergence of different movements. In essence, it is theoretical, emotional, poetic or ideological nature of values that is exposed through architecture. Fundamentally rationalizing architecture, modernism embodies a new value orientation paradigm. The need to recognize the phenomenon of origin and belonging is brought about by the National Romanticism, regionalism and contextualism. Value orientation in architecture in this period also became the object of academic analysis, as a result, classifications and theoretical principles for creation of synthesized spatial forms were developed. **The ideological environment of architecture and practice of the 21st century** is characterized by eclecticism of historical ideas about value orientation with a distinct ethical dimension in its broadest sense, including such ideas as sustainable development, cultural responsibility for heritage, civic awareness, cognitive community, tolerance for diversity and other ideas. Complex assessment systems of stylistic diversity of the housing development in the conditions of tolerance do not comprise the humanistic ideals and aesthetic spatial parameters. Value orientation focuses on the practical aims that should be reached through architecture rather than otherwise. Certain differences are identified regarding value ideals and concepts, approaches, nature and ways of dissemination of values. For example, such broad non-measurable value concepts as identity, image, the concept of architectural character, compatibility of the massing with the environment, context, sustainability and other concepts are still influenced by their wide application and interpretation, however, they are increasingly actualized anew within the

argumentation formulas beneficial for a definite occasion.

Most frequently, **the demand factor** in the built environment is closely connected with the historical circumstances. **Until the end of the 19th century**, the matters of survival and need for protection were the most urgent issues. Within the value orientation system of the elite, architecture was mainly seen as a symbol of welfare and status, significance was ascribed to the aesthetic dimension of architectural styles and the quality of civil engineering performance. **In the 20th century**, demand factor accents were mainly determined by population growth and the consequences of two world wars, as well as the development of typology regarding growing demands towards household conveniences, education, healthcare, and other areas. The demand for independence from classic aesthetics in architecture was growing. Value orientation was influenced by engineering innovations and fundamental changes in materiality; concrete, glass, and metal became the most popular building materials. The demand under Soviet occupation regime was subject to various restrictions. **In the 21st century**, the demand factor in the development of the built environment is subject to a significant influence of consumer society value orientation, pluralism, and rapidly changing and unpredictable circumstances. The demand that determines the requirements towards architecture is gradually supplemented with the demand that determines the requirements towards architectural practice and the architect.

The impact factor in the built environment is connected with power relations and the tools maintaining them. **Until the end of the 19th century**, the commissioner had the largest influence on value orientation in the built environment – a wealthy and influential person, who authoritatively commissioned the building. Architecture was created by well-educated personalities – architectural experts. City plans were developed by experienced military engineers, whereas foremen and craftsmen were responsible for construction. In the territory of Latvia, the origins of professional education and practice started to evolve at the end of the 19th century, German and Baltic German cultural environment considerably contributed to this process. The largest impact on architecture in **the 20th century** was associated with embodiment of a definite architect's architectural concepts, manifests were considered a peculiar form of impact. Architecture evolved in conditions of the dominating trends and totalitarian socio-political system, under the impact of various normative and technological restrictions. **In the 21st century**, architecture is evolving in difficult political, economic, and social conditions and cultural dialogue, the number of value orientation related challenges is growing with regard to both the quality of architecture and that of architectural practice. Value orientation is influenced by both progressive architecture explicitation applications and industry and practice management aspects. It is observed that the topicality of three value categories considered – ideas, buildings, and regulatory framework – has not changed, still, purposeful value orientation formation system for all these categories has developed both qualitatively and quantitatively.

CHAPTER 3. FORMATION OF VALUE SYSTEM IN ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE IN LATVIA

In **Chapter 3** the author evaluates the interaction between architectural value and processes of institutionalized control, analyzes process performance and its impact on practice. To analyze the aims set in the Doctoral Thesis, the procedures functioning in the modern practice that aim at influencing professional and public value orientation towards environment quality promotion are analyzed within the applied practice processes (Fig. 3.1).

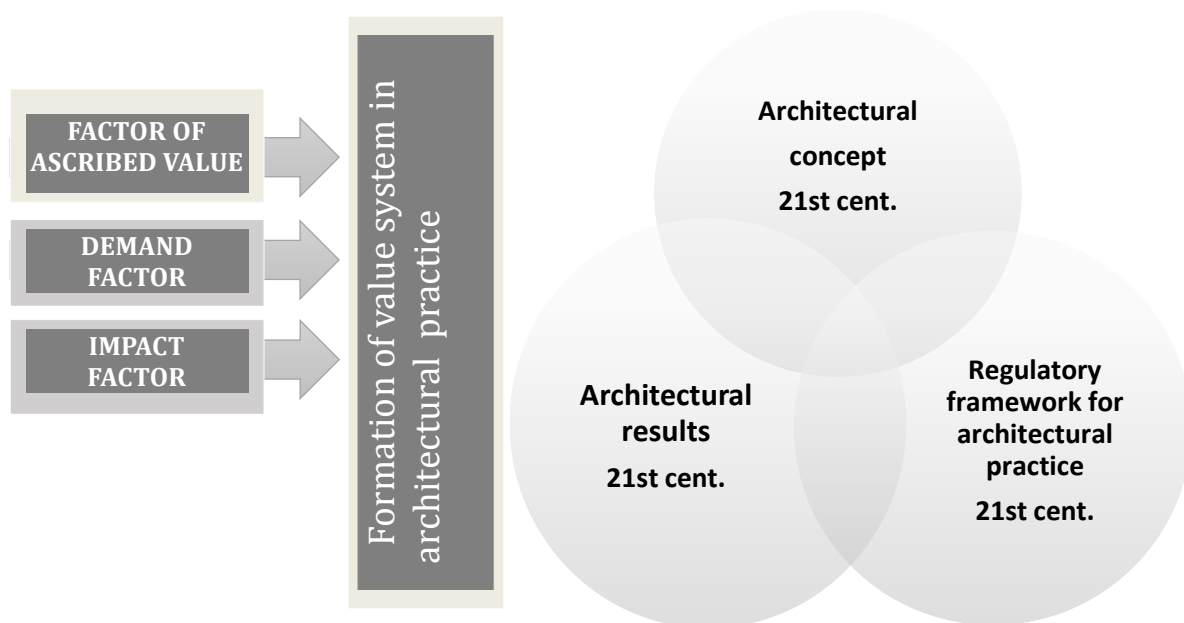


Fig. 3.1. Analysis of the factors contributing to value orientation in the categories of value orientation within practice processes in the 21st century.

The data on the organization of the modern practice, industry research and practice statistics in Latvia since 2007 are summarized, including the main conclusions on the structure and statistics of the professional environment. The author summarizes the materials on the measures and definitions introduced in Latvian since 1991 that define the environment of architectural practice in the 21st century and ensure that dissemination of the postulated values is promoted and controlled. The distinction between the systems dedicated to architectural quality and those dedicated to practice quality is made, highlighting **cultural policies** of creative industries, **legislative regulation of architecture and practice** and **social process of value reconciliation** as the main intentional types of value orientation (Fig. 3.2).

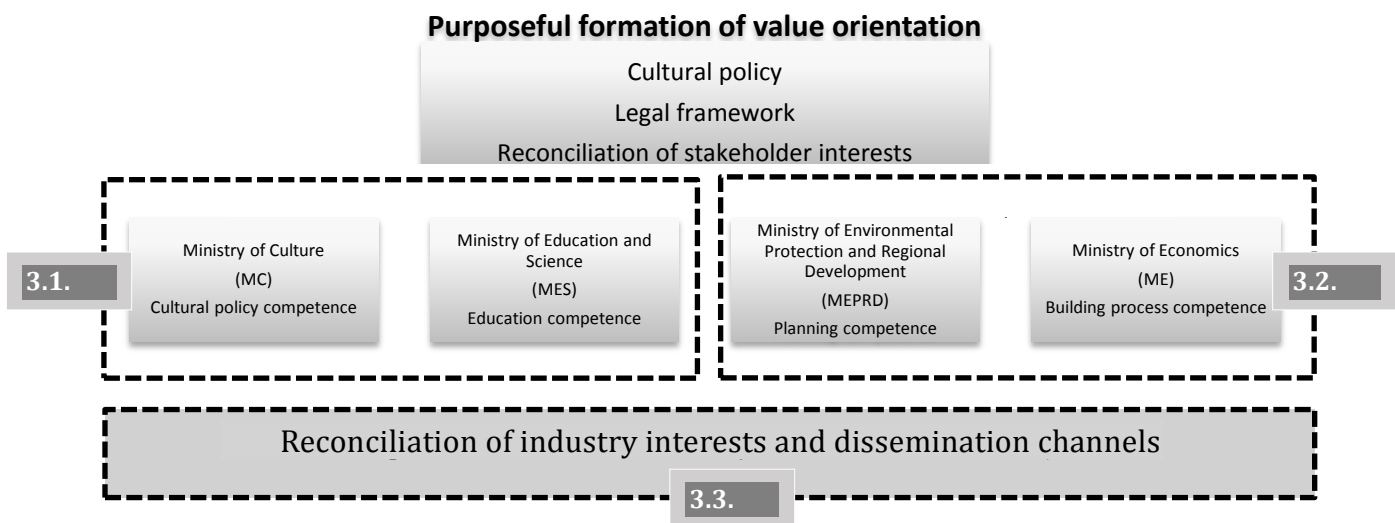


Fig. 3.2. Purposeful formation of value orientation in architectural practice

Predeterminable typological structuring of practice processes is applied in the research, the empirical research data included in the sub-chapter illustrate different identified priorities, which are initially set as the greatest value within the institutionalized framework of each process. The selection of a practical process to be analyzed was made on the basis of the theoretical analysis conducted within the Thesis, results of the surveys and expert interviews, it is the authorial interpretation of the most typical contexts in value orientation in general, as well as the challenges in the Latvian architectural practice since 1991. The analysis in the selected systems is performed using a single method at a first approximation and different methods during in-depth investigation. The value systems considered in the practice processes are first analyzed in value conception, value criteria and regulatory framework modules, which were selected for analysis in Chapters 1 and 2. In the empirical part of research, the research methods are adapted for the context of each system in accordance with the main research questions put forward.

In **Sub-chapter 1 of Chapter 3** the author performs functional analysis of architectural value dissemination and management model in cultural policies. The most important issues and definitions forming value orientation are considered within political industry guidelines – the documents that set tasks for the state and municipal institutions.

In the practical research on this type of value orientation, a typical insight into **ascribed value, demand and impact factors** is provided by an in-depth analysis of professional awards. The conclusions on value orientation dissemination trends in promotion of industry values and public communication are made.

Sub-chapter 2 of Chapter 3 presents functional analysis of architectural value dissemination and management model within the regulatory framework for architectural and construction processes. The vital issues and definitions forming value orientation are analyzed in legislative enactments, in-depth research on the

building process regulatory framework and supervision of the architect's practice is conducted in the context of value orientation.

In the practical research on this type of value orientation, a typical insight into **ascribed value, demand and impact factors** is provided by the case study of territory development and planning and functional analysis of obligatory further education system. It is considered how visions and standards in the development of new territories are implemented in practice. The territory typical for a certain location and time period is the object of value orientation research, whose development is regulated and is supposed to meet certain standards. The interaction of architectural values and market conditions in the development of Mārupe private sector is analyzed within the urban development value system.

The idea about the need for life-long learning in the context of rapid change underlying professional further education system ensures productive work of a person in one's profession, it has become a self-evident and inherent element of practice. Analysis attests that the entire society, as well as architects, recognize the value of professional advancement. The idea of professional further education is popular, it is seen as a type of intentional value orientation with a large growth potential.

The main principles and the volume of the professional architectural further study program implemented in Latvia for more than two years are determined by a single legal regulation for all practicing construction specialists. The non-compliance of the unified system to the needs of diverse target audience of architectural service providers is the main challenge. The main issues relate to recognition of compliance to formal requirements, availability of seminars and thematic content quality.

The structure of further education program can be modified, comprehensively analyzing the forms, methods and modes of professional advancement of an architect. At present, widely available forms of information mining are used and keep developing, rather than the forms of information exchange, which have the potential to improve the level of knowledge and skills in the local practice. Promoting practical experience exchange among the colleagues from different generations and activity areas, a further education platform may have the potential to become a forum for circulation and exchange of information and may transform the accumulated practice related challenges into opportunities much quicker than it is happening now.

Sub-chapter 3 of Chapter 3 functional analysis of architectural value dissemination and management model within the social process of value reconciliation. In the area of industry interest reconciliation, value orientation is formed by interaction between the professional identity of an architect and an individual pursuing a definite aim with representational rights to interfere with the creative work of an architect. The formal process of introduction of architectural criteria, value category management performance and its effect on value orientation are analyzed within contemporary architectural practice processes typologically

determined within value systems in Latvia in 1991–2017.

In the practical research on this type of value orientation, a typical insight into **ascribed value, demand and impact factors** is provided by an in-depth analysis of institutionalized value dissemination in architectural heritage management, architectural sketch competitions and social processes of interest reconciliation. The existing procedures within these processes, actual performance and their impact on the quality of architecture and professional services are analyzed.

Evaluating the composition and practical application of value orientation purposefully designed to complete value related tasks in the **cultural policies**, it is concluded that it is best to analyze the set values and the ways to promote them considering **the priority tasks set** in the planning documents. The quality of architecture and the built environment is set as the greatest value in the cultural policy. Although architecture is positioned as an important element of culture, currently **the legal framework for the industry** is not legally bound to the cultural policy. At the same time, **the industry management system** comprising state and municipal institutions is well established; it was recognized as having a considerable impact on practice in the survey (Appendix 7). Practice related performance of the **competition promotion system** cannot be assessed due to the lack of data, however, the issue is mentioned as highly topical in many studies on industry development. The state provides and maintains an internationally accredited **professional education system**. In turn, **value promotion and industry communication system in the cultural policy context** is developing, providing support for participation in selected recognized international forums, locally supporting various cultural activities, tasks and events, funding research, as well as recognizing achievements by granting awards.

In general, the national cultural policy plays a role in ensuring and increasing architectural practice quality, still, its direct impact on practice cannot be objectively assessed or it is comparatively small. In the survey, architects point out that they are proud of their own and their colleagues' achievements, however, they find pleasure in searching for solutions, which they see as their primary professional task. An important part of the daily cultural policy activities consists in educating the wider public, selection of the samples of successful architecture using a set of changeless values. **Analysis of industry awards** illustrates that primary focus is made on the role of architectural design, disregarding other aspects of value orientation and ignoring the circumstances where the objects evolve. The research demonstrates that there is a fierce competition in the field of awards, because their range has developed both qualitatively and quantitatively. Growth in numbers and segmentation by area attests this phenomenon as a market demand and as a certain form of impact. Award criteria that become separate nominations attest topicality of some values, e.g. heritage preservation, energy efficiency, wooden architecture and other values.

Evaluating the composition and practical application of value orientation

purposefully designed to complete value related tasks in the **regulatory framework**, it is concluded that it is best to analyze the set values and the ways to promote them considering **the legislative enactments regulating architecture quality and practice supervision**. Legal framework is established as a system of requirements that allow building any element of the built environment provided that the legislative norms are observed. Value orientation is formed by development and control of provisions of law, which have notably developed quantitatively but less so qualitatively. It was discovered that the changes in building regulations in 2014 changed the professional status of an architect in administrative and legal terms and architect's role in the overall construction process. The status of a member of creative profession and the respective rights, obligations and responsibility have interacted with the status of a building process participant and a chartered construction specialist.

In general, the role of regulatory framework in ensuring and increasing architectural practice quality is at the heart of the process and its direct impact on practice is relatively high. In the survey, architects point out that currently normative and legislative aspects are in conflict with architectonic thought, artistic approach, dialogue and professional community culture. Arguments "for the sake of idea" are substituted with the argument "in the name of law" – legal obligations of an architect to perform certain actions, including to advance professionally in compulsory further education. Observations on extremities in law enforcement, deadlocks, increase of administrative load, and increase of the share of useless work are highlighted.

An important part of the daily building process activities aims at interpreting and observing the legislative enactments, however, the **analysis of territory development** demonstrates the result non-compliant with the criteria established on the theoretical principles. Although legal norms are observed, qualitative results in urban planning also depend on public understanding of the urban planning processes and willingness to cooperate. The case of Mārupe development points at the fact that individual's perception and attitudes towards a definite environment are formed by objective and subjective factors. Such value criteria as connection with external public space and the planned multifunctionality in surrounding territory development were cast off in favor of the criteria defined by funding availability cycles. Architectural quality and aesthetics are understood differently and correspondence to qualitative spatial urban development regularities in the new developments is not a decisive value.

Evaluating the composition and practical application of value orientation purposefully designed to complete value related tasks in **interest reconciliation**, it is concluded that it is best to analyze the set values and the ways to promote them in the course of development of specific objects. Legal and cultural policy related aspects and assessments by certain individuals (experts, members of the jury) play a role in stakeholder interest reconciliation, however, there is a tendency that communication

mainly occurs employing legal argumentation, in essence considering the processes and terminology through the prism of rights and duties.

In the survey, architects indicate that overall in their daily work they perceive interest reconciliation as self-evident and assess it both positively and negatively depending on the situation. Simultaneously, survey participants recognize that within these reconciliation processes there are such argumentation side-effects as process formalization, bureaucracy and lack of consent exposed in a variety of forms – between generations, among professionals, between professionals and officials. Considering practice processes, they stress the dominating lack of general critical analysis and lack of consistent, substantiated and general requirements towards work environment. They also note the tendency for stakeholders to avoid responsibility in practice, thus responsibility for the final construction result in architectonic categories is lost.

Table 3.1

Interaction among Forms of Intentional Value Orientation and Value Orientation
Impact Factors

Form of intentional value orientation	Factors contributing to value orientation that under intentional formation of value orientation have developed in a definite direction and have influenced architectural practice			Manifestation as a tool in promoting values
	Factor of ascribed value (what is ascribed the highest significance)	Demand factor (what is in demand)	Impact factor (what tools are used to cause impact)	
1. Cultural policies of the industry	Criteria of architectonic values and diversity of other criteria, interaction and heterogeneity of priorities	According to the level of attention, recognition, publicity	Visual representation, expert opinion	Awards
2. Regulatory framework for architecture and practice	Normative criterion	Documents reconciled with stakeholders	Disciplinary measures	Institutional control
3. Social process of value reconciliation	Polysynthetic	Timing budgets that promote the deficit of other resources	Legislative argument	Procedures, institutional opinions, media

Analysis of the process of **architectural heritage recognition** and preservation focuses on essential differences between the desired and the existing. Lack of common understanding is recognized as the main problem, not only concerning the value to be preserved in the objects of heritage, but also the pace of architectural and building processes, which largely depends on coordination issues. Analysis of **architectural competitions** organized in the historical center of Riga points at inefficiency and formal nature of the developed system. Analysis of the **public hearing procedure** demonstrates wide public involvement opportunities that influence creative and technical processes of architecture.

Summarizing the findings on interaction among value orientation forming and contributing factors, **the summary is compiled** (Tab. 3.1).

The number of evaluated systems is considered sufficient in order to draw conclusions on the impact of contingent and purposefully organized processes on value orientation in the architectural practice in Latvia.

CONCLUSIONS

1. The most outstanding achievements in architecture are accomplished by observing clear professional value principles, **at the same time, the process of their evolvement is facilitated by a number of factors.** Uneven development and global socio-economic changes that are underway since the end of last century have conditioned the growing uncertainty in the general development of the industry. **Changes in the factors of ascribed value, demand and forms of impact are changing the circumstances** where architectural values and spatial environment in general are created, **and this calls for the need to reconsider value criteria of the professional practice.**
2. The main factors of humanistic conscience – ideas, things and people – also determine the categories in the systematization of architectural practice. According to the division made within axiological research, there are three interacting value categories in architectural practice – **architectural concept, architectural result and regulatory framework for architectural practice.** The defined division allows for detailed analysis of contingent events and intentional processes that influence modern value orientation of architectural practice.
3. Value orientation in architectural practice documented in the historical sources **manifested differently** until the end of the 19th century, in the 20th century and 21st century. The differences in all three value categories are manifested with respect to both the conceptual content of professional value criteria and their dissemination and practical implementation. **The architectural practice environment in the 21st century is characterized** by the tendencies for institutionalization of value dissemination, interaction between the administrative mechanism and the construction industry and the growing concern for interest reconciliation.
4. Since the origins of human civilization, professional value orientation in architecture has developed **in the discussion of the value ideas,** in the 21st century it is still based on the necessity to meet the needs of the wider public. Along with the growing population and increasing rate of information exchange, differences in value conceptions and great opportunities to choose promote stylistic diversity of the built environment, reduce the role of style and develop a viewpoint for complex assessment. **In the context of needs, the ascribed value in the Latvian architectural practice** is characterized by understanding of the specifics of the construction process and regulatory compliance.

5. Professional value orientation, which has been known since the times of Ancient Rome, has evolved within the **category of architectural result**. In the 21st century, it is still based on the Vitruvian Triad and aesthetic, functional, economic, environmental and social criteria of architecture. Affirmation of the value of contemporary architecture and heritage is made in manifests, canons, value recording registers, professional awards, publications, thematic exhibitions and other forms of assessment. **In the context of market change, the demand in the Latvian architectural practice** is characterized by value plurality, fragmentation and segmentation, understanding of the conformity of the resource consumption and reputation with a definite market segment is playing an increasing role.
6. Professional value orientation, which since the 12th century has been forming within **the category of regulatory framework for architectural practice**, is based on the body of legal and administrative instruments regulating construction. In the 21st century, the range of instruments of administrative control has considerably widened and has become an inherent part of architectural practice. **In the context of interest reconciliation, forms of impact in the Latvian architectural practice** are characterized by procedures of conformity criteria control that are attributable to the aspects of ensuring architectural quality and regulated profession management.
7. **Contingent** professional value orientation in the Latvian architectural practice since the 1990s is connected with the political context of the state on the European scale (accession to the European Union, global economic crisis, etc.). **Design technologies** are constantly improving, **the range of building materials** is constantly growing and **building technologies** are developing rapidly. Some norms and regulations connected with building safety have significantly influenced value orientation in the Latvian architectural practice.
8. **Formation of intentional professional value orientation** in Latvia is implemented using impact instruments that are based on the cultural policy, which are connected with the legislative enactments or which realize communication among the stakeholders. Clear value argumentation, adoption of different points of view, ability to adapt, cooperate and synthesize are playing ever more important role in the daily practice. Purposefully established institutional systems often operate out of touch with the practical topicalities, assessment criteria are being formalized, promoting bureaucracy rather than the quality of architecture.
9. In the official **cultural policy** in Latvia, architectural practice is defined as a creative industry. Basic principles of the cultural policy are mainly actualized in visions and are exposed as measures in supporting architecture. According to the

basic principles of the value theory, the information base of the cultural policy comprises the values shaping professionally idealistic conscience, which are based on the respected opinions on the worth of the modern architecture. This form of intentional value orientation in **architectural practice is assessed as intermediated but significant.**

10. **Regulatory framework for architectural practice** in Latvia is mainly manifested as the attempts to control compliance with building codes and legal aspects of architect's practice. Value status of regulatory framework has developed in connection with the circumstances that have promoted expansive checking of normative compliance and tighter control of practice. This form of intentional value orientation in **architectural practice has been assessed as particularly intense.**
11. In the Latvian architectural practice, **social integration of the conception of value** is mainly connected with individual interests and provision of the public rights for qualitative built environment, ensuring both supervision of professional values and the opportunity to implement civic and professional activity. Interaction of the conceptions of value most frequently may cause conflict within the development projects of public significance, in general, it concerns practice on a large scale. Impacts promote establishment of interest groups and actualize the need for public relations skills. This form of intentional value orientation in **architectural practice has been assessed as growing.**
12. The most significant impact on practice value orientation is imposed by **the parties involved in evolvement of architecture** – commissioners, civil engineers, engineers, officials and architects. Critical discussions about **the role and status of an architect** in the environment development have been topical since the first historical records on architectural practice. The factors that compromise the role and status of an architect in the modern architectural practice include the contradictions in the requirements put forward, unpredictable volume of commission, inadequate work remuneration, insufficient qualification and technical capacity.
13. Consistent **professional advancement** has become a purposefully organized form of value orientation with a good growth potential in the context of modern challenges. Within the existing professional further education programs, the conception of value does not receive sufficient attention. The main part of program curriculum is dedicated to the reaction to the existing practice related topicalities and the studies of the legislative enactments.

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