

Preface

From the Earth's Core to Outer Space is an extended and revised version of the book *Maan ytimestä avaruuteen* edited by I. Haapala and T. Pulkkinen and published in 2009 in Finnish in the series *Bidrag till kännedom av Finlands natur och folk*, No. 180, of the Finnish Society of Sciences and Letters, Helsinki. That book was based on lectures given in a symposium dealing with timely research topics in geosciences and arranged in January 2008 in Helsinki to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the Finnish Academy of Sciences and Letters. The current version has been written to international readers. The articles have been strongly revised, some of them completely reformulated, and four new articles (Chap. 5 by H. O'Brien and M. Lehtonen, Chap. 12 by M. Viitasalo, Chap. 13 by J. Karhu, and Chap. 14 by A.E.K. Ojala), and three appendices (Geological time table, Layered structure of Earth's interior, Layers of Earth's atmosphere) have been added to widen and deepen the content of the book. The themes of the book are: Earth's Evolving crust, Changing Baltic Sea, Climate Change, and Planet Earth, Third Stone from the Sun.

I am grateful to all authors who, in addition to their official work, have found time to write the articles, and to the reviewers, who in most cases are other authors of the book: Pasi Eilu, Eero Holopainen, Pentti Hölttä, Hannu Huhma, Kimmo Kahma, Juhani Kakkuri, Juha Karhu, Veli-Matti Kerminen, Emilia Koivisto, Annakaisa Korja, Hannu Koskinen, Marita Kulmala, Markku Kulmala, Raimo Lahtinen, Martti Lehtinen, Matti Leppäranta, Wolfgang Maier, Pentti Mälkki, Irmeli Mänttari, Satu Mertanen, Heikki Nevanlinna, Mikko Nironen, Pekka Nurmi, Hugh O'Brien, Antti Ojala, Risto Pellinen, Markku Poutanen, Tuija Pulkkinen, Tapani Rämö, Juhani Rinne, Jouni Räisänen, Heikki Seppä, and Timo Vesala. Especially, I would like to thank Professor Tuija Pulkkinen, who acted as coeditor of the Finnish version, but retreated from the editorship of the current volume because of her increased new duties at the Finnish Meteorological Institute and, since the beginning of 2011, at Aalto University.

Espoo

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