How about studying St. Maximus the Confessor? What if we started reading him for his own sake? Since the rediscovery of St. Maximus in the aftermath of World War II, experts on Patristics and theologians from East and West have been keen to claim that they have the authority of St. Maximus on their side. But how could one ever settle conflicts of interpretation related to the teaching of St. Maximus when the content of this teaching remains largely unexplored?

The organisers of the International Conference held in Helsinki in 2013 shared the conviction that if there was one intellectual task that could gather Maximus scholars and disciples from around the world and make them fruitfully interact with one another beyond their diverse Church affiliations, it was that of delving together into the very structure of Maximus’ vision of the Cosmos. The volume which you presently have in your hands is the only piece of evidence that their assumption was not entirely mistaken.