This August day, we take the car to the edge of the ice sheet. From Kangerlussuaq it is a sandy and dusty road of about 25 kilometres. The road is bumpy and rough and the cross-country vehicle moans on the way.

The road runs along a rushing river with melt water from the ice sheet. Already the power of the melt water shows on its way down towards the sea, tells the story about the dramatic nature, we are surrounded by.

When the road takes us high above the surrounding countryside, we can already see the edge of the ice sheet ahead, and the sky over the ice sheet has a special pale blue colour from the reflection, the huge surface of ice forms from the rays of the sun.

We are well shaken through when we reach the goal: A huge wall of ice that vertical rises of up to one hundred meters. It is dangerous to go too close to the edge of the ice that is constantly breaking down. Here on the edge of a rocky area, we can relax and watch the forces of nature.

For centuries we have realized that the conditions of life on Earth is constantly changing and we have especially in the past decade been focusing on the fact, that mankind is becoming a more and more significant contributor to these changes.

So far it has not caused significant changes in the way we affect the climate and the environment of the planet, and in fact I think we await some collapse in in our environment. Not until then we and our political systems will implement the necessary changes in our behaviour.

The melting of the Greenland Ice Sheet has been given a symbolic key role in this political theatre: The researchers monitor continuously the ice melting and the movement of the glaciers, which are leading the ice towards the sea, and the results immediate find its way to the headlines of the world press.

While we look at the magnificent masses of ice in front of us, I think we all get a clearer awareness of the enormous dynamic forces, which are at play in our environment.

East of Kangerlussuaq, August 2011

On the edge of the ice sheet