
About the author

Born in Brooklyn, New York in 1928, Joseph E. Schwartzberg received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin in 1960. He has since taught at the University of Pennsylvania (1960–1964 and summer 1965), the University of Minnesota (1964–2000) and Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi (Fullbright Professor, 1979–1980). His academic specialities are the geography of South Asia, political geography and the history of cartography. His doctoral dissertation (1960) was published (1969) as monograph number 4 of the 1961 Census of India, with the title *Occupational Structure and Level of Economic Development in India: A Regional Analysis*. He has also done pioneering research on the geography of the Indian caste system during two years of fieldwork throughout India, and has published numerous works on the conflict in Kashmir. His monumental and highly innovative *Historical Atlas of South Asia* (University of Chicago Press, 1978 and Oxford University Press, 1992) won the Watumull Prize of the American Historical Association and a distinguished achievement award from the Association of American Geographers. He was the principal author and co-editor of two volumes of the projected 11-volume *History of Cartography*, writing on the indigenous cosmographic and cartographic traditions of South Asia, Southeast Asia and Greater Tibet. He has served on the editorial advisory board of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* and as a consultant on South Asia to numerous publishers and several government agencies in the United States and India.

After 32 months of military service during the Korean War (final rank of first lieutenant), Schwartzberg spent an equal time living and backpacking

in Europe, North Africa and Asia. He has since extended his travels considerably, having now visited more than a hundred countries. He has lived in India (four years), Germany, France and Spain, and is multilingual.

Schwartzberg served as chair of the University of Minnesota's Department of South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, as a trustee and member of the Executive Council of the American Institute of Indian Studies and as an elected member and secretary of the US National Committee of the International Geographical Union. He participated in several Peace Corps training programmes (directing the first such programme for Ceylon), and for three years directed Minnesota Studies in International Development, an overseas internship programme.

A lifelong peace and justice activist, Schwartzberg has a particular interest in the UN system and has published numerous books and articles relating to global governance. Among his publications are *Revitalizing the United Nations: Reform through Weighted Voting* (Institute for Global Policy and World Federalist Movement, 2004) and *Creating a World Parliamentary Assembly: An Evolutionary Journey* (Committee for a Democratic UN, 2012).

Schwartzberg was a co-founder in 1996 of the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers, a consortium now including more than 80 peace and justice organizations. He served on the board of directors of the World Federalist Association (subsequently Citizens for Global Solutions and now GlobalSolutions.org), chaired its Policy and Resolutions Committee and for 14 years was president of its Minnesota Chapter. He is currently a member of the International Council of the World Federalist Movement as well as the Steering Committee of the World Federalist Institute (a think-tank). He was also in 1997 a founding member of another think-tank, the Kashmir Study Group, and a co-author of several of its publications. In 2009 the University of Minnesota's Office of International Programs bestowed on him its yearly Award for Global Engagement and the honorary title of Distinguished International Emeritus Professor.