

# "CREATING A WORKABLE WORLD" Conference

University of Minnesota / Humphrey School of Public Affairs

301 19<sup>th</sup> Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55455

Friday, OCTOBER 9<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 – 6:00pm

Saturday, OCTOBER 10<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am – 5:45pm

<http://www.workableworld.org/oct-2015-conf.html>

**HOSTED BY:** the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota

**CREATED AND SPONSORED BY:** The Workable World Trust

**Friday, October 9th, 3:30 – 6:00pm**

3:30 Registration, Coffee and light refreshments

## **Conference Moderator:**

**John Trent**, former Secretary General, International Political Science Association



John E. Trent is a Fellow of the Centre on Governance at the University of Ottawa, where he was formerly professor and chair of the University's Department of Political Science. He is the author of *Modernizing the United Nations System* (Opladen, Barbara Budrich Publishers, 2007). Professor Trent is the former Secretary General of the International Political Science Association (IPSA), Executive Director of the Social Science Federation of Canada, and a founding Vice-President of the Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS). He is Board Chair of the World Federalist Movement of Canada for whom he was the editor of the publication: *The United Nations and Canada: What Canada has done and should be doing at the UN*. (2013 and 2014). See [www.johntrent.ca](http://www.johntrent.ca)

4pm **Welcome:** Eric Schwartz, Dean, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, U of MN



Eric Schwartz became dean of the Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota in 2011 following a 25-year career in senior public service positions in government, at the United Nations and in the philanthropic and non-governmental communities. His rich background of service has involved U.S. foreign policy and international relations, international humanitarian affairs (e.g., tsunami relief), human rights and the rule of law, global crises, U.N. conflict prevention and response, and international migration. In 2009, President Obama appointed him to his most recent pre-Minnesota posting, as U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees and Migration. In that capacity he managed a budget of \$1.85 billion and oversaw projects that spanned the planet.

#### 4:05 **What is the Workable World Trust?** Joseph E. Schwartzberg, Director, The Workable World Trust



A life-long peace and justice activist, Joe has served in numerous capacities at the international, national and local levels in organizations associated with the World Federalist Movement, and currently serves on its international Council. In 1995 he was one of the founders of the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers and in 2014 established the Workable World Trust. He has written three books and numerous articles on matters relating to global governance. His most recent book, *Transforming the United Nations System: Designs for a Workable World*, was published by the United Nations University Press in 2013, and has been warmly endorsed by former UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali and many other prominent global thinkers. Joe taught geography (with an emphasis on political geography) and South Asian studies at the University of Pennsylvania, 1960-64, at the University of Minnesota, 1964-2000, and at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 1979-80, and has published extensively on South Asia.

#### 4:20 **Musical Interlude: Maryam Yusefzadeh and Tim O'Keefe, local musicians**



##### Maryam E. Yusefzadeh

A vocalist, arranger, percussionist, educator and performance artist, Yusefzadeh is actively involved with jazz, Persian, classical and world music as a vocalist, arranger, and guest lecturer at several local and national institutions. She composes, arranges, performs and teaches vocal technique, in addition to offering educational programs on the music of Persia. She co-founded the vocal jazz quintet "Solfege," and the world and Middle East quartet "Robayat," winner of the 1992 MN music awards. She and the group Robayat were featured artists at Twin Cities Public Television's "Minnesota Original."

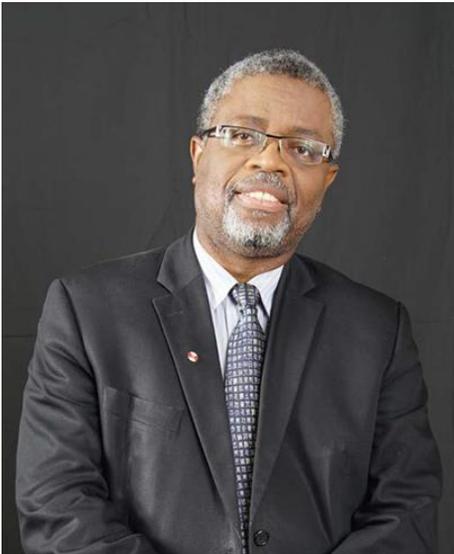
<http://www.mymusicproduction.com>.

##### Tim O'Keefe

O'Keefe is an award winning percussionist /multi-instrumentalist and educator, whose professional career spans more than 30 years. His background includes traditional North American, rock, blues, rhythm, a number of different jazz styles, and world music (Arabic, Brazilian, African, Persian, Latin American, Turkish, Eastern European, Armenian, and Greek). A founding member of the group "Robayat," he has also performed with a host of international luminaries (including Minnesota's own Bob Dylan).

4:30 **Conference Purpose and Overview:** John Trent, former Secretary General, International Political Science Association

5pm **Keynote Speech: Time for a New Global Governance Paradigm:**  
W. Andy Knight, Professor, International Relations, The University of Alberta & Director, Institute of International Relations, The University of the West Indies



Professor Knight is the Director of the Institute of International Relations at The University of the West Indies and former Chair of the Department of Political Science at the University of Alberta. He serves as advisor to the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on the Welfare of Children and was a Governor of the International Development Research Centre from 2007 to 2012. He co-edited the journal *Global Governance* from 2000 to 2005 and was Vice Chair of the Academic Council on the United Nations System.

Professor Knight has written extensively on United Nations reform and the transformation of multilateral institutions. Among his published books are: *A Changing United Nations: Multilateral Evolution and the Quest for Global Governance* (Palgrave, 2000); *Adapting the United Nations to a Postmodern Era: Lessons Learned* (Palgrave/MacMillan, 2005); and *Global Politics* (Oxford University Press, 2010). Known for challenging accepted orthodoxies of contemporary multilateralism, he has been named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, the highest honor bestowed on Canadian academics, and has been awarded numerous additional honors.

**SUMMARY:** For many observers, our world has become ungovernable. Yet, we have institutions of global governance that are supposed to manage and address the global problems that we face and steer us into a future that is more peaceful, stable, equitable, just, sustainable, and prosperous. The problem though is that those institutions are essentially "decisions frozen in time." The extant architecture of global governance was by and large created at a time when sovereignty-bound entities reigned supreme. These institutions comprising that architecture are now being expected to operate in a turbulent "intermestic" world in which both sovereignty-free and sovereignty-bound actors compete and jostle for position. They are proving themselves to be defective, inefficient, ineffective and largely irrelevant in the twenty-first century. This presentation critically examines the patchwork concoction that we call "global governance" and explains the new "fragmegrative" and complex environment within which governance institutions are forced to operate. It argues that the time has come for us to focus not so much on reform and adaptation of those institutions but rather on the transformation in the very conception of "global governance". This requires a paradigm shift away from the state-centric idea of "international", anarchic and hierarchical governance to one that embodies notions of multi-centric authority and subsidiarity arrangements that are more conducive to self-organizing steering of multiple and multilevel agencies (state and non-state) which are operationally autonomous but structurally coupled due to their mutual interdependence.

7:30 – 9:30pm **Sneak Preview of the Forthcoming Film "The World is My Country,"**  
The amazing true story of World Citizen #1 Garry Davis.  
Followed by discussion with Producer/Director Arthur Kanegis

**Saturday, October 10th, 8:30am – 5:45pm**

8:30 Registration, Catered breakfast

9:10 **Welcome, Review of Friday Session, Introduce Day's Program: John Trent**

9:20 **Minnesota's Place in a Rapidly Changing World: Mark Ritchie,**  
Honorary Director, The Workable World Trust



Mark serves as President and CEO of EXPO 2023, the citizens committee working to bring the World's Fair to Minnesota's World. As Minnesota's elected Secretary of State, Ritchie served from 2007 until his retirement in 2015. Prior to his election as a state Constitutional Officer, he served as president of the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy from 1988 until 2006. In 2015 Ritchie was selected for the Endowed Chair in Agricultural Systems at the University of Minnesota's Institute for Sustainable Agriculture. He is a graduate of Iowa State University and the Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota.

9:30 **A Workable System of Peacekeeping: Robert C. Johansen,**  
Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame



Robert C. Johansen is Professor Emeritus of Political Science and Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame and Senior Fellow at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies. He has written *The National Interest and the Human Interest* (Princeton University Press, 1980), *A United Nations Emergency Peace Service*, and numerous articles on global governance, United Nations peacekeeping, and international enforcement of human rights. He is the founding editor-in-chief of *World Policy Journal*. He has held visiting appointments at Princeton and Harvard Universities. His current research focuses on efforts to increase compliance with international norms prohibiting war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity, and crimes against the peace.

**SUMMARY:** In order to keep the peace and protect innocent people threatened by war, terrorism, genocide, or gross violations of human rights, the United Nations needs a standing emergency peace service to ensure that preventable humanitarian disasters will not occur. Although in its initial form it would not be able to handle large security problems in general, it could be politically feasible and would provide immediate, full protection in situations like the Rwandan genocide and serve as a complement to larger UN peace operations when needed. Members of such an elite standing service could be: carefully selected from among individuals who volunteer from many nations, well-trained with diverse yet essential skills, and quickly deployed. Such a service could also help address extreme environmental dangers and natural disasters in cases where other remedies are inadequate for averting serious threats to human well-being.

## 10:15 Imparting Greater Legitimacy to the United Nations System:

Charlotte Ku, Texas A & M University School of Law



Dr. Charlotte Ku is Professor of Law and Associate Dean at the Texas A & M School of Law. Prior to that, she was Professor of Law and Assistant Dean for Graduate and International Legal Studies at the University of Illinois College of Law from 2007 to 2015. Before her tenure at Illinois, Dr. Ku served as acting director at the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law at the University of Cambridge following a 12-year tenure as Executive Director and Executive Vice President of the American Society of International Law in Washington, D.C. She has served as the Executive Vice President and Executive Director of the American Society of International Law (1984-2006) and is a past Chair of the Board of Directors of the Academic Council on the United Nations System. Among her many publications is *International Law, International Relations and Global Governance* (Routledge, 2012).

**SUMMARY:** The governance/legitimacy puzzle we face today is that sources of authority with the capacity to govern may be losing legitimacy either because of an inability to solve problems or due to a failure to keep pace with changing circumstances. Initial steps have been taken in international institutions like the United Nations to address this by engaging civil society through NGO forums as well as private monitoring and review programs. *Transforming the United Nations System: Designs for a Workable World* notes many of these developments and argues for their further advancement.

However, harnessing the output of these efforts to the governing systems and decision-making structures remains a challenge. A short-term solution may be to foster public-private partnerships where governments give voice to the findings and views of civil society in formal state-based institutions and decision making fora. Unless the international institutions that comprise the UN system can address this puzzle, there will be increasing concern about accountability deficits and performance legitimacy.

11:00am Coffee Break

## 11:15 A World Parliamentary Assembly: The Key to Global Democracy

Andreas Bummel, Director, Committee for a Democratic U.N. (Berlin)



Andreas Bummel, a consummate activist, is the co-founder and Director of the Berlin-based Committee for a Democratic U.N. in Berlin. He is a co-founder and the coordinator since 2007 of the Campaign for a UN Parliamentary Assembly. He is arguably the world's leading advocate of a world parliament. He has authored numerous publications on the subject, spoken on it and organized relevant conferences and demonstrations in cities on five continents, and collaborates with parliamentarians and civil society representatives worldwide. At present, the campaign is endorsed by 1,400 former and sitting members of parliaments.

(Presentation Summary on next page)

**Andreas Bummel's SUMMARY:** A World Parliamentary Assembly is supposed to represent the voice of the world's citizens at the UN and in global governance. In recent years, support for the establishment of such a body has grown considerably. Based on the extraordinary long-term trend toward democracy, this presentation highlights the democratic deficit of global governance and provides an introduction to the proposal. The possible development from a consultative assembly to a world legislature is illustrated with reference to the example of the EU Parliament. Topics that are touched upon include the possible allocation of seats in the assembly. Finally, the proposal is put into the context of a third democratic transformation. After the invention of democracy in Greek city states circa 400 B.C.E. and its expansion to large territorial states based on the principle of representation in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, there now is the need for planetary democratization.

## **Noon Civil Society Engagement in Global Governance and Promoting International Democracy: William Pace, Executive Director, World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy**



William R. Pace is the Executive Director of the World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy (WFM-IGP). He has served as the Convenor of the Coalition for an International Criminal Court since its founding in 1995, and is a co-founder and steering committee member of the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect. He has been engaged in international justice and human rights, rule of law, peace and UN reform, inter alia, for the past 30 years, and received the Cox Price Award for Human Rights at the University of Denver and the Human Rights Medal from the Urban Morgan Institute for Human Rights for his achievements in the establishment of the ICC.

**SUMMARY:** If humanity is to survive the 21st century, fundamental improvements in the UN system, and in other agencies of global governance must be established. Non-governmental organizations, educational institutions and other components of civil society will be indispensable actors in effecting these changes. The continued globalization of democracy, the rule of law, justice and human rights must be the foundation of the transition to a new world order. Mutual assured disarmament must replace mutual assured destruction. The current UN cannot succeed. The balances of power are not sustainable. However the transition from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation international organization must be legislative, not emerging from catastrophe and collapse. Global governance myths must be dispelled; the emerging legal order will be a mosaic of regional and global laws and institutions. Strategic coalitions of democracies from all regions, working in concert with civil society coalitions will be a major model of reform. Joseph Schwartzberg's *Transforming the United Nations System* provides an extraordinarily comprehensive guide to the changes needed and to how the changes might be approached.

### **12:45 Catered Lunch (non-student registrants)**

Those registered as students will be on their own for lunch. There are a number of restaurants within easy walking distance (see map provided).

**2:00 A Political and Psychological Strategy to Achieve a Workable World:  
Rabbi Michael Lerner, Network of Spiritual Progressives**



Besides being the editor of Tikkun Magazine [www.tikkun.org](http://www.tikkun.org), Rabbi Michael Lerner is chair of the nation-wide ecumenical Network of Spiritual Progressives [www.spiritualprogressives.org/covenant](http://www.spiritualprogressives.org/covenant). He holds a Ph.D. in political philosophy and a second in clinical psychology, and is the author of 11 books, including the national best seller *The Left Hand of God: Taking Back our Country from the Religious Right* (Harper Collins, 2006). Cornel West describes him as "the most significant prophetic public intellectual and spiritual leader of our generation" and asserts that "Secular intellectuals and those who yearn for a major change in the direction of American society must read his books and learn from his message."

**SUMMARY:** Rabbi Lerner will address the political and psychological resistance to creating a workable world and how to overcome the demand to "be realistic" which cripples any significant movement for social change, and the best strategies to get other countries on board with the brilliant ideas presented in Professor Schwartzberg's *Transforming the United Nations System*. Based on a National Institute of Mental Health-sponsored research project he directed on the psychodynamics of American politics, Lerner contends that any movement seeking to change the United Nations or establish a rational international order or a world government must include as a major part of its activity a strategy to address the immediate psycho-spiritual pain, generated by the dynamics and underlying assumptions of the capitalist marketplace, which shapes Americans' assumptions about what is possible in the social and political world. He will then present some ideas about how to popularize a "New Bottom Line" in Western societies which could help heal some of the trauma that keeps Americans acting against their own most rational self-interest.

**2:45 The Politics of the UN's Human Rights Regimes:  
Barbara Frey, Director, Human Rights Program, College of Liberal Arts,  
University of Minnesota**



Professor Frey directs the Human Rights Program at the University of Minnesota where she oversees interdisciplinary teaching, research and programmatic activities for undergraduates, graduate students and professional students. She teaches human rights law and advocacy. Her current research interests are on advocacy for human rights in Latin America, gun violence and human rights globally. She received a Fulbright-Garcia Robles award to teach and research in Mexico in 2013. Frey was Executive Director of Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights from 1985-97. She has participated in the United Nations system both as an NGO advocate and as an expert. From 2000-2003, she was an alternate member of the U.N. Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, and, from 2003-06, was the Sub-Commission's Special Rapporteur on human rights violations committed with small arms and light weapons.

(Presentation Summary on next page)

**Barbara Frey's SUMMARY:** While, since 1948, the United Nations has developed a robust body of legal standards to promote and protect human rights, the enforcement of these standards has proven to be a complex and difficult task. A series of reforms in 2006 sought to improve the integrity and efficiency of the UN's human rights mechanisms. The 2006 reforms created a new mechanism, the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), to level the political playing field by providing a forum in which the human rights practices of every member state could be publicly considered. This presentation will discuss the politics of human rights at the United Nations, demonstrated by the UPR process as well as other existing UN human rights mechanisms. The presentation will consider some of Professor Schwartzberg's proposals for strengthening the UN's human rights regime in light of the political realities that shape the discourse and design of the global body.

**3:30pm Coffee Break**

**3:45 Musical Interlude: Maryam Yusefzadeh and Tim O'Keefe, local musicians**

**4:00 Meeting the Environmental Challenge:**

**Hilary French, United Nations Environment Programme,  
Program Officer, Climate Change and Resource Efficiency\***

(\*for identification purposes only; Ms. French is participating in her personal (not official) capacity)



Hilary French is a Program Officer at the United Nations Environment Programme's Regional Office for North America, where her work focuses on climate change, air pollution, the green economy, and resource efficiency. She previously served as a special advisor to UNEP on a broad range of issues, including civil society engagement and globalization and the environment. Ms. French came to UNEP from the Worldwatch Institute, where she served in diverse capacities: Vice President for Research, Director of the Globalization and Governance Project, Senior Advisor for Programs, and Senior Researcher.

Ms. French has published and lectured widely on global environmental and sustainable development issues. She co-authored fifteen of Worldwatch's annual *State of the World* reports and authored *Vanishing Borders: Protecting the Planet in the Age of Globalization*. She is also the author of six Worldwatch Papers, including *Partnerships for the Planet: an Environmental Agenda for the United Nations*. She has worked as a consultant to private foundations and been a visiting professor at Williams College. She is a graduate of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

**SUMMARY:** As environmental issues have risen rapidly on the international agenda in recent years, the United Nations has been called upon to respond. International conferences such as the December 2009 Copenhagen Climate Change Conference and the June 2012 "Rio+20" United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development have attracted the participation of world leaders and of tens of thousands of civil society and the private sector representatives and led to important international accords. Unfortunately, though, environmental decline has continued apace. This presentation will highlight several significant ongoing U.N. environmental processes such as the 10 Year Framework of Programs on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10 YFP), the soon to be adopted Sustainable Development Goals, and the upcoming Paris 2015 United Nations Climate Conference, and assess their prospects for effectively managing today's urgent environmental threats.

**4:45 Open Forum: opportunity for conference participants to share their thoughts**

**5:30 Concluding Remarks, Next Steps: John Trent**