Rosika Schwimmer was a Hungarian-born pacifist, feminist, and advocate for world government who played a significant role in international peace movements before and after World War I. Born on September 11, 1877, in Budapest, Hungary, she became involved in the peace movement early in her life. Schwimmer founded the Hungarian Feminist Association in 1904, which fought for women's rights, including suffrage and equal pay. Her activism in the feminist movement was a precursor to her later work in international peace efforts, highlighting the intersectionality of her advocacy work. In 1914, at the outbreak of World War I, Rosika Schwimmer moved to London, where she became the secretary of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance. She worked tirelessly to organize the International Congress of Women at The Hague in 1915, which was one of the most significant pacifist conferences during the war. The congress led to the creation of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), an organization that continues to work for peace and women's rights to this day. Schwimmer's commitment to pacifism was evident when she proposed a mediation plan to end World War I, which involved a neutral conference for peace. She presented her plan to various leaders, including U.S. President Woodrow Wilson. Although her efforts were unsuccessful, they demonstrated her innovative approach to conflict resolution and her belief in the power of neutral diplomacy as a means to achieve peace. After moving to the United States in 1914, Rosika Schwimmer continued her peace advocacy by lecturing across the country and campaigning for the U.S. to stay out of the war. She co-founded the Campaign for World Government in 1937, reflecting her vision that only a supranational organization could effectively prevent wars and resolve international conflicts. Her commitment to this idea was ahead of its time and anticipated the formation of the United Nations. Rosika Schwimmer's efforts for peace were often met with suspicion and resistance. During the Red Scare in the United States, she was accused of being a communist sympathizer, which was a common accusation against peace activists at the time. Despite being a committed pacifist, her advocacy for world government and her international connections subjected her to intense scrutiny and undermined her work in the eyes of some contemporaries. Schwimmer's dedication to women's rights and peace was recognized when she was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1948. Although she did not win, the nomination was a testament to her lifelong commitment to activism and her impact on the international peace movement. Her nomination also highlighted the often overlooked contributions of women in the field of peace and diplomacy. In a landmark case, Schwimmer v. United States, Rosika Schwimmer was denied U.S. citizenship in 1929 because she refused to take an oath to bear arms in defense of the nation, citing her pacifist beliefs. The Supreme Court upheld the decision, with Justice Holmes dissenting. This case became a significant precedent in the discussion of conscientious objection and the limits of religious and moral freedom in relation to citizenship. Schwimmer's influence extended beyond peace activism; she was also an early advocate for women's rights in Hungary. She played a pivotal role in the advancement of women's suffrage in her home country. Her efforts contributed to the eventual granting of limited voting rights to women in Hungary in 1918, with full rights being recognized in 1945. Schwimmer's work laid the groundwork for the feminist movement in Hungary and inspired future generations of activists. Despite her many accomplishments, Rosika Schwimmer faced significant personal and professional challenges. She was often marginalized within the movements she helped to create due to her strong personality and uncompromising stances. Her commitment to her ideals sometimes led to conflicts with other leaders and organizations, which affected her ability to effect change within those groups. Rosika Schwimmer passed away on August 3, 1948, in New York City, leaving behind a legacy of tireless activism for peace and women's rights. Her life's work continues to inspire peace activists and feminists around the world. The challenges she faced and the obstacles she overcame serve as a powerful example of the impact one individual can have on the world, even in the face of adversity and opposition.