

Lecture Series on Governance and Politics in South Asia
Department of Political Science

India in the Age of Super States

by

Alasdair Roberts

University of Massachusetts Amherst

The world is entering the age of superstates: an era in which the global order will be dominated by states of unprecedented scale and internal complexity. The US is the vanguard superstate; India and China are rising superstates; and the European Union is an aspiring superstate. Superstates have features in common with ordinary states, empires, and superpowers, but are distinct in important ways from all of these other political forms. This presentation will discuss the governance challenges shared by all superstates, but which are presently addressed in radically different ways. These include the creation of effective systems of leadership; maintenance of internal cohesion; economic regulation; promotion of justice; and management of external demand for resources and markets.



Prof. Alasdair Roberts writes on problems of public administration, law and public policy. His latest book is *Can Government Do Anything Right?* (Polity Books, 2018). His previous book, *Four Crises of American Democracy*, was published by Oxford University Press in 2017. He has written five other books, including *Blacked Out: Government Secrecy in the Information Age* (Cambridge University Press, 2006). He has received several awards for his writing, including the Brownlow Book Award from the National Academy of Public Administration. In 2014, Professor Roberts received Canada's Grace-Pépin Award for his research on open government. He was elected a Fellow of the US National Academy of Public Administration in 2007. He served as co-editor of the journal *Governance* from 2009 to 2017.

Date: Monday, 22 October 2018

Time: 16:00-18:00

Venue: SAI 317

All are cordially invited!