

## **Rani Mullen, Ph.D.**

Rani D. Mullen is a Professor of Government at the College of William & Mary, where she teaches courses on comparative politics, state-building in post-conflict settings, and South Asian politics. She has an M.A. and Ph.D. from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School and an M.A. from Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies.

Dr. Mullen directed the prestigious Freeman Fellowship Program in 2023–24 and launched the Afghanistan Research Lab in 2024. Her scholarly work focuses on democracy, local governance, and foreign policy in South Asia—particularly India and Afghanistan. She is the author of *Decentralization, Local Governance, and Social Wellbeing in India* (Routledge, 2011) and has published widely on state-building, Indian foreign aid, and the political transitions in Afghanistan. Dr. Mullen has conducted research in India, Singapore, the Philippines, and Ghana and has held numerous fellowships, including a Senior Fulbright-Nehru Fellowship.

Dr. Mullen serves as Series Editor of *Advances in South Asian Studies* (Routledge) and Associate Editor of *India Review*. She is a Senior Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Policy Research in New Delhi, a Non-Resident Fellow at the Liechtenstein Institute on Self-Determination at Princeton University, and formerly a Visiting Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of South Asian Studies at the National University of Singapore.

Her research and policy work has been supported by The Asia Foundation, the World Bank, and other international organizations. A frequent participant in global conferences, Dr. Mullen also contributes to public debates through op-eds and policy briefs on India's foreign policy, aid diplomacy, and Afghanistan's political future.



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