



Colonel Christopher D. Kolenda is an adjunct senior fellow at the Center for a New American Security. Colonel Kolenda, a career Army officer, recently returned from Afghanistan where he was the Commander of 1-91 Cavalry, 173rd Airborne Brigade, in northern Kunar and eastern Nuristan Provinces. Colonel Kolenda pioneered an innovative population-centric approach to counterinsurgency that dramatically reduced the levels of violence in that volatile area of Afghanistan. These methods are now being adopted across Afghanistan.

Colonel Kolenda currently serves as the Military Special Advisor to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy and as the Senior Director for Counterinsurgency. He was selected by the Under Secretary to participate in the Afghanistan-Pakistan Strategic Review directed by President Obama. His ideas and experiences played a critical role in shaping the Administration's new strategy.

Colonel Kolenda is a graduate of the United States Military Academy. He holds a Master of Arts in Modern European History from the University of Wisconsin and a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the US Naval War College. He is the editor and co-author of *Leadership: The Warrior's Art* which is on the official reading lists of the Army and Navy. In addition, his articles have been published in the *Weekly Standard* and numerous professional journals such as *Naval War College Review*, *Military Review*, *US Naval Institute Proceedings*, and the *Armed Forces Journal*.