

The Journal of Intelligence, Conflict, and Warfare is only one manifestation of the force that was Professor Candyce Kelshall. Across decades of service to the security and intelligence community, she held many roles, each marked by characteristic tenacity, intellectual clarity, and visionary leadership. To say that her loss is felt by JICW, and by the security and intelligence community more broadly, is a profound understatement.

The contributions that follow seek to honour Prof. Kelshall by presenting a small selection of the work that defined her tenure as CASIS Vancouver President and Editor-in-Chief of JICW. While her academic, policy, and practitioner contributions, alongside her commitment to the next generation industry professionals, cannot be fully captured within these pages, they nonetheless offer a meaningful entry point into her recent work and enduring legacy.

Central to this was her upstream exploration of the evolution of contemporary conflict, highlighting recent shifts from state-centric battles to fifth-generation warfare (5GW) focused on population identity and group versus group conflict. In the first set of works, Violent Transnational Social Movements (VTSMs) are identified as key non-state actors that use soft violence and digital echo chambers to radicalise individuals and erode social cohesion. The resulting self-radicalised and self-actualised actors pursue dominance, legitimacy, authority and superiority for their identity group in the targeting of perceived competitors in the socio-cultural space.

As one means of countering these dynamics, a Review Centric Cycle for intelligence professionals is proposed, integrating rigorous oversight and accountability into the analytical process. In centering the reviewer, the revised cycle incorporates a built-in capability assessor, serving as connective tissue between nodes that are too often treated as discrete or sequential.

Lastly, the concept of human infrastructure security is introduced to identify and protect the intangible social bonds and norms that sustain a functioning society. In this work, Prof. Kelshall addressed this invisible security threat and suggested alternative attribution frameworks as a tool to harden community targets against attack.

Together, these works provide a glimpse into the comprehensive framework Prof. Kelshall put forth for understanding the ways modern security must adapt to hybrid threats that target human connections rather than just physical borders. In presenting them here, we aim to honour her not only as a scholar and practitioner, but as a force who helped shape the field and those who will carry it forward.

Sam David



Director, CASIS Vancouver