Paradigm	Deterrence Containment	Self-defense	Precautionary Self-defense	Armed retaliation	Chapter VII authorized	Chapter VII unilateral	Armed intervention	Humanitarian intervention	Preventive intervention
Classic Period	L	L	L	L	x	x	L	L	L
Between Wars	L	L	GL	D	x	x	GI	GL	D
1945	L	L	D	Ι	L	Ι	D	Ι	Ι
Cold War	L	L	D	D	L	Ι	D	D	Ι
Post Cold War	L	L	D	D	L	GI	GI	GI	Ι
Preventive Intervention	L	L	GL	L	L	L	GL	GL	GL
Future	L	L	GL	GI	L	D	D	GL	Ι

Evolution of the paradigm of the legality of armed responses to threats

*L: Legal. Consensus that a rule authorises the use of force* 

*GL*: *Generally legal. General agreement that a rule authorises the use of force in certain circumstances* 

**D:** Disputed. General disagreement as to whether a rule authorises the use of force

GI: Generally illegal. General agreement that a rule prohibits the use of force in certain circumstances

*I*: Illegal. Consensus that a rule prohibits the use of force