Analytical Grid (Annex II)

The Use of Force in Practice: 1945-2020

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When using the data, please always cite:

Marxsen, Christian/ Kriener, Florian, The Use of Force in Practice: 1945-2020, British Yearbook of International Law (2026)

When appropriate, also cite this Analytical Grid:

Marxsen, Christian/ Kriener, Florian, The Use of Force in Practice – Analytical Grid, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law (2025)

Annex II

Analytical Grid

This document contains the analytical grid that guided the research on the conflicts under analysis. The variables are defined in Annex III (Codebook).

[No. of conflict] [Name of conflict] [conflict years]

Key data

Duration: ** – **; Parties: **; Initiator: **.

[No of Actor] [Actor/country name]

	Code
Law invoked?	1 Yes 2 No

1.1 Justificatory claim	**.2 Source of law**	**Contestation about**					**Material**
		.3 facts	**.4 interpretation**	**.5. exceptional circumstances**	**.6 abstract general level**	**.7 validity**	
0 no legal claim 1 self-defence 2 Chapter VII 3 invitation 4 rescue of nationals 5 humanitarian 6 pro-democratic 7 self-determination 8 recover territory 9 non-applicability of the prohibition of the use of force 10 denial of involvement	1 Treaty 2 Custom 3 Both 4 no spec.	1 Yes 2 No	1 Yes 2 No	1 Yes 2 No	1 Yes 2 No	1 Yes 2 No	##relevant quotations and statements by the actor

11 intervention below the threshold of force 12 other							
Letter sent in accordance with Art. 51 UNCh	0 – not applicable (where no self-defence claim was made) 1 – yes 2 – no						

1.2 Justificatory claim	**.2 Source of law**	**Contestation about**					**Material**
		.3 facts	**.4 interpretation**	**.5. exceptional circumstances**	**.6 abstract general level**	**.7 validity**	
Letter sent in accordance with Art. 51 UNCh							

1.3 Justificatory claim	**.2 Source of law**	**Contestation about**					**Material**
		.3 facts	**.4 interpretation**	**.5. exceptional circumstances**	**.6 abstract general level**	**.7 validity**	
Letter sent in accordance with Art. 51 UNCh							

4. Invocation of use of force by a victim state	.1 Source	Material
0 no 1 yes	1 Treaty 2 Custom 3 Both 4 no spec.	

	Code	Material
5. Legitimacy Claim	0 no legitimacy claim 1 enable self-determination 2 maintenance of law and order 3 Maintenance of regional stability 4 defense against terrorism 5 humanitarian 6 defense against ideology 7 enforcing a specific political system 8 liberation of occupied territory 9 protection of nationals abroadf 10 protection against WMDs 11 support by local authorities 12 other	

	Code	Material
6. UNSC Reaction	1 approves 2 disapproves 3 unclear 4 unclear+veto 5 no reaction	
7. UNGA Reaction	1 approves 2 disapproves 3 unclear 4 no reaction	
8. ICJ Reaction	1 lawful	

	2 unlawful 3 unclear 4 no reaction	
9. State Reaction	1 approves 2 disapproves 3 unclear 4 no reaction	