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Author: Prof. Yasuaki Hashimoto
National Institute for Defense Studies, Japan, hashimoto@nids.go.jp

THE USE OF THE RIGHT OF SELF DEFENCE IN OUTER SPACE - THE JAPANESE
PERSPECTIVE -

Abstract

Japanese Government regulated Basic Plan for Space Policy in February 2009 following the establishment of its Basic Space Law of 2008. This Basic Plan sets some main pillars for Japanese space activities including the use for security purposes. And also Japanese Basic Law declares that Japanese space activities comply with international laws and regulations. This shows that Japan now generally accepts the global standards for space utilization including security. Under such circumstances, Japanese space use for security will be done according to international laws including the theory of the right of self defence. However Japan has kept its own self defence theory for some decades. This Japanese interpretation might conflict with the global standard self defence activities in outer space. In this article, the author will analyse Japanese future space activities for security purposes, especially self defence purpose and its ideal interpretation and policy of the right of self defence.