



Authentication and Authorisation for Research and Collaboration

Policy Innovations in Federated Identity

Insights from AARC

Maarten Kremers

AARC Policy WG

SURF, AARC Policy WG, GN5-2 T&I EnCo



ISGC 2025

Tapei, 21st March 2025



Authentication and Authorisation for Research and Collaboration

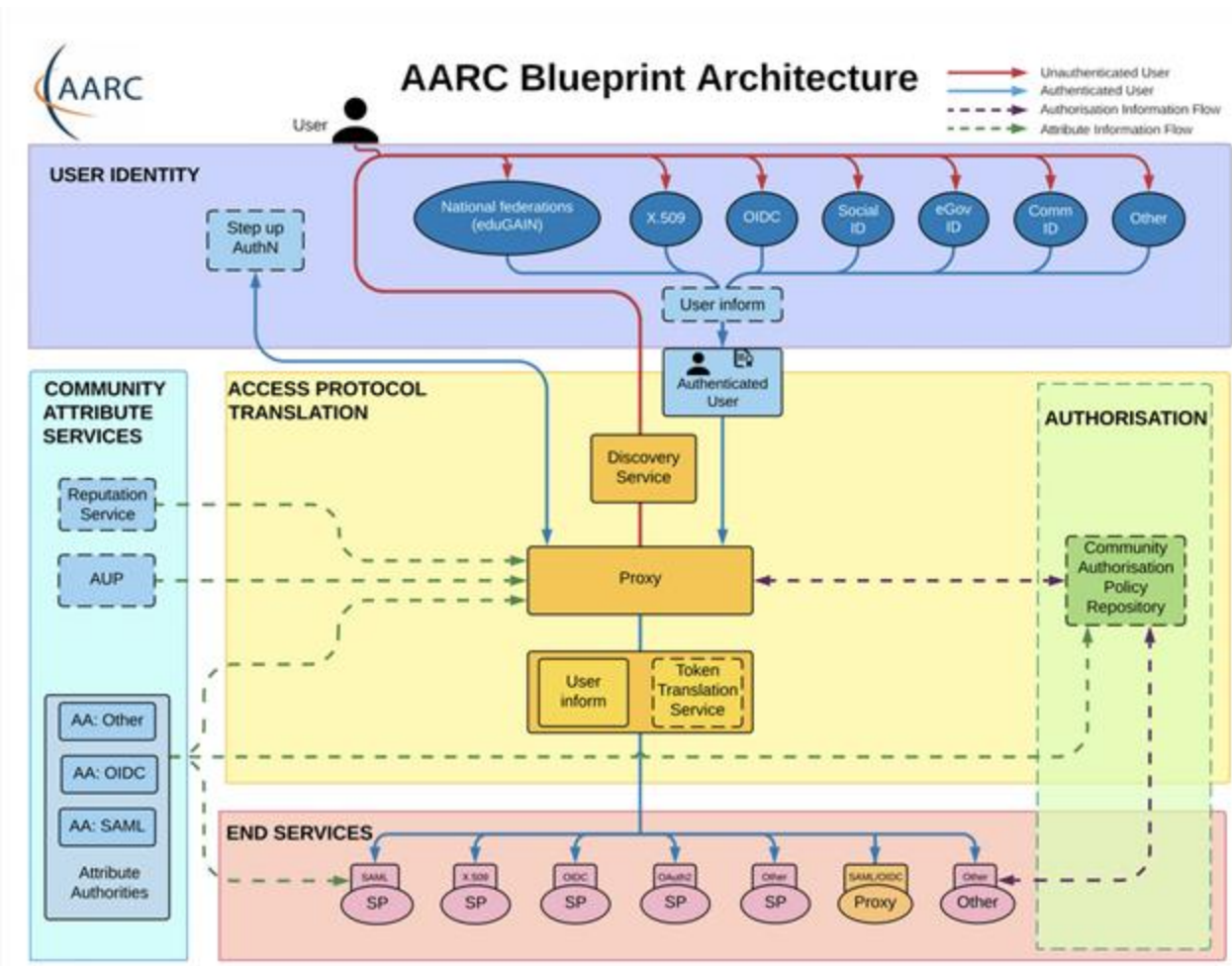
With many thanks to the other members
of the policy WG

- David Groep, Nikhef & Maastricht University
- David Kelsey, STFC-RAL
- Catharina Vaendel, Nikhef
- Arnout Terpstra, SURF
- Hannah Short, CERN
- And many others

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AARC Blueprint Architecture: many communities and collaboration, and full of fancy colourful pictures and stuff

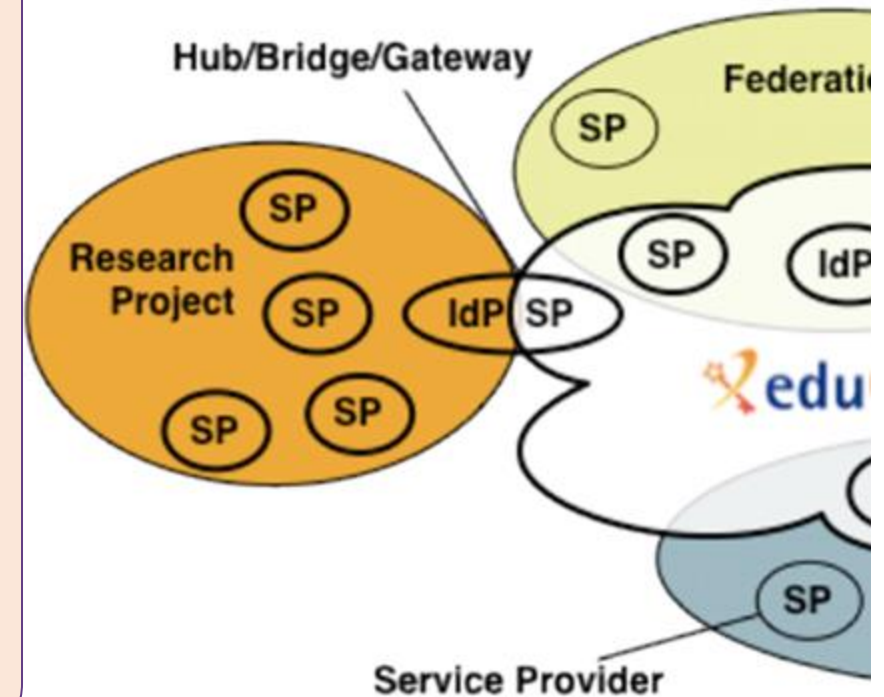


What is the AARC BPA?

The **A**uthentication and **A**uthorization For **R**esearch and **C**ollaborations **BluePrint Architecture** provides a set of building blocks for software architects and technical decision makers who are designing and implementing access management solutions for international research collaborations. By design the AARC BPA is **technology agnostic** and provides an **architectural design** for those the deploy AAls.

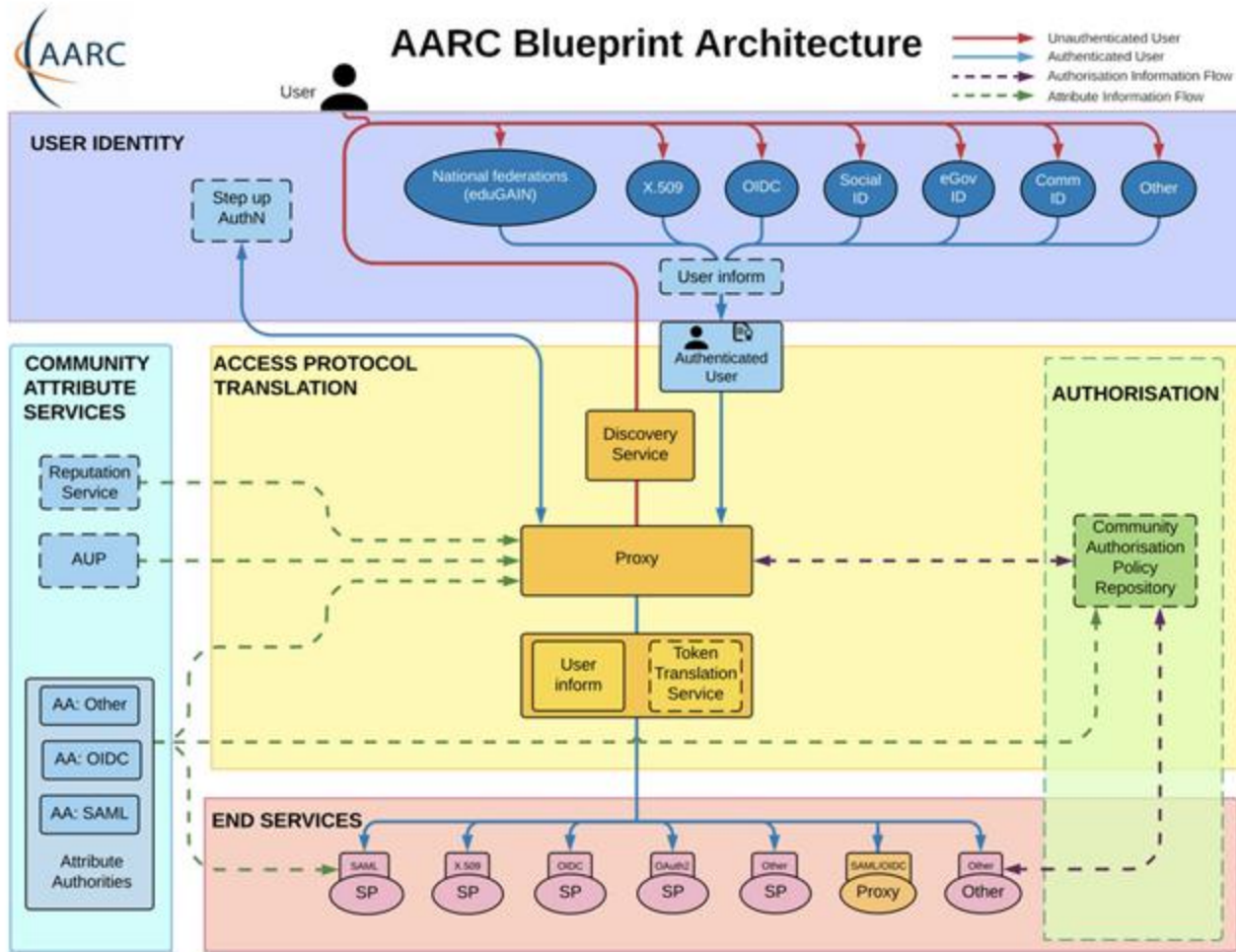
The AARC BPA: the IdP-SP proxy to enable federated access for research

- Access services using **identities from users' Home Organizations**, but **hide complexity** of multiple IdPs, federations, AA technologies
- **One persistent identity** across all the community's services through **account linking**
- **Access services based on role(s)** users have in the collaboration.
- For both **web** and **non-web** resources
- Integration of **guest identity solutions**
- **Support for stronger authentication assurance** mechanisms



Graphics: Ann Harding and Lukas Hammerle (SWITCH) – from a long time ago now!

Interoperability – more than just the nice colours



Not sure how to begin with the AARC Blueprint Architecture? There are plenty of [guidelines](#) available but it can be a minefield at first. You probably want to start by designing the high level approach of your infrastructure based on the AARC Blueprint Architecture. There are several general topics you should consider, such as Data Protection ([AARC-0042](#)) and Federated Security Incident Response ([AARC-0051](#)), here you can find common questions matched to the relevant Blueprint Architecture component, along with links to guidelines that can help.

User Identity:

- How should I integrate Social Media Identity Providers? [AARC-0008](#)
- How should users link accounts, and how does that affect Assurance? [AARC-0009](#)
- How should services indicate that they would like users to authenticate with multifactor authentication, and how should my proxy forward that information? [AARC-0029](#)

Assurance:

- How should assurance information of external identities be calculated? [AARC-0020](#)
- What can I say about assurance of identities from social media accounts? [AARC-0041](#)
- How is assurance impacted by account linking? [AARC-0005](#)
- How should assurance information be shared with other infrastructures? [AARC-0021](#)
- Which Assurance Profiles should I use, there are so many! [AARC-000](#)

Community Attribute Services:

- How should attributes from multiple sources be aggregated? [AARC-0003](#)
- How should I express the home institute of a user? [AARC-0025](#)
- How should I express the identifier of a user? [AARC-0026](#)
- What are the best practices for running my Attribute Authorities securely? [AARC-0075](#)
- Which Acceptable Use Policy should I use to facilitate interoperability? [AARC-0044](#)
- How should I enter the affiliation of a user? [AARC-0057](#)

Access Protocol Translation:

- Which best practices should I follow for my Token Translation Services? [AARC-0004](#)
- How should I translate from Identity Federation information to X.509 certificates? [AARC-0010](#)

Authorisation:

- How should I manage authorisation information from multiple sources? [AARC-0006](#)
- How should group and role information be expressed to facilitate interoperability? [AARC-0002](#)
- How should resource capabilities be expressed? [AARC-0027](#)

Proxies:

- How can I ensure that my proxy is able to accurately claim that it supports best practices in Identity Federation? [AARC-0011](#)
- How should I express the home institute of a user? [AARC-0025](#)
- How should I express the identifier of a user? [AARC-0026](#)
- How should I express assurance information for users when interacting with another proxy? [AARC-0021](#)
- How can my proxy simplify the discovery process for end-users? [AARC-0001](#)
- How can my proxy route the user to the correct discovery service? [AARC-0002](#)

End Services:

- My service needs to act on behalf of the user – how should I handle credential delegation and impersonation? [AARC-0003](#)
- My services are not web based, how can I use identities from the proxy? [AARC-0007](#)
- How should Services hint which SP they would like users to use? [AARC-0048](#)
- Which Security practices should I follow? [AARC-0014](#)

What next? Are you looking for a kick start with your policies? Take a look at the [Policy Development Toolkit](#) which provides a set of templates.

Personal Data	Protection Contact	Services (side by)	processing personal data.
Privacy Policy	Infrastructure Management (for general policy) & Services (for service specific policies)	Users (new)	This can be used to document the data collected and processed by the infrastructure and its participants. Each service in the infrastructure, as well as the infrastructure itself, should complete the template.
		Services (side by)	This policy defines requirements for running a service within the infrastructure.
		Users (side by)	This is a template for the acceptable use policy that users must accept to use the Research Infrastructure. It should be augmented by the Research Community.

Showing 1 to 9 of 9 entries

<https://aarc-community.org/guidelines/>

A common suite of architecture and policy guidelines

AARC AARC ▾ Architecture Policy Guidelines AARC TREE 🔍

[Home page](#) > [Guidelines](#)

Guidelines

The **AARC Guidelines** complement the **AARC Blueprint Architecture** (BPA) and the **policy best practices** recommended by the AARC project. The guidelines can apply to any topic that helps to advance Federated Identity Management for research and collaboration.

The AARC Guidelines help communities and infrastructures to implement and operate an AAI for research and collaboration more effectively and in an interoperable way.



[Architecture](#) [Policy](#) [Targeted](#) [Endorsed by AEGIS](#)

- AARC-G083 Guidance for Notice Management by Proxies**
03/11/2024
- AARC-G071 Guidelines for Secure Operation of Attribute Authorities**
11/04/2022
- AARC-I051 Guide to Federated Security Incident Response for Research Collaboration**

AARC BPA Guidelines – evolving interoperability with new guidance



Architecture

- Protocols and profiles
- Attribute specs and transport
- Communications and interfaces

Policy

- ISM interoperability
- Policy development kit
- Trust mechanisms and federation

Policy and good practice underpinning the AARC Blueprint BPA

Infrastructure alignment and policy harmonisation: helping out the proxy

- **Operational Trust** for Community and Infrastructure BPA Proxies
- Increase acceptance of research proxies by identity providers through **common baselines**
- Review infrastructure models for **coordinated AUP, T&C, and privacy notices**, improving cross-infrastructure user experience (users need to click only once)



User-centric trust alignment and policy harmonization: helping out the community

- Lightweight **community management policy** template
- Guideline on cross-sectoral trust in novel federated access models
- Assurance in research services through (eIDAS) public identity assertion



How to establish secure operation for your (AARC BPA) proxy?

The Challenge

- How to securely operate proxies, attribute authorities and issuers of statements for entities?

Guideline

- [AARC-G071 Guidelines for Secure Operation of Attribute Authorities](#)

Summary

- Operational security processes and procedures
- Requirements on traceability, auditability, and logging
- Requirements on the secure operation
- Requirements on securing the interactions



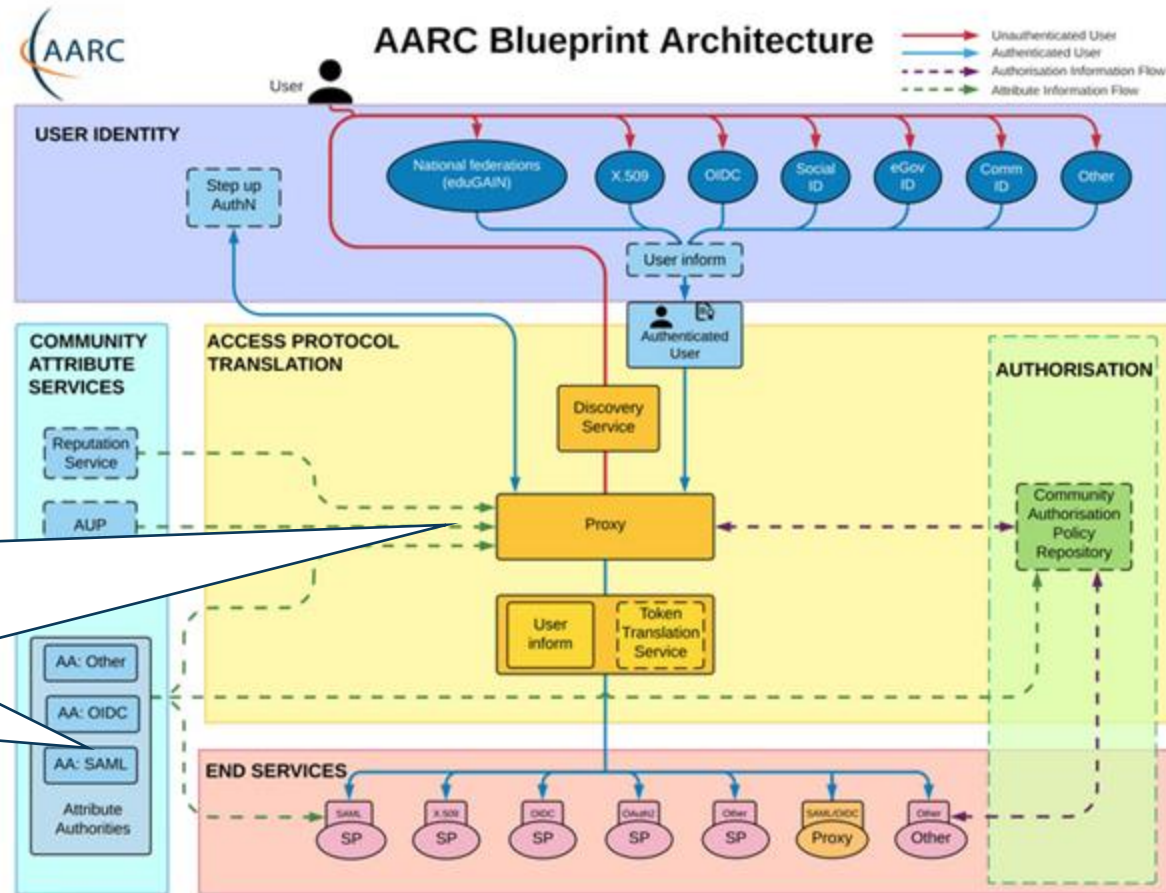
Guidelines for Secure Operation of Attribute Authorities and issuers of statements for entities

Publication Date	2022-04-11
Authors:	Members of the IGTF and the AARC Community; David Groep; Ian Collier, Tom Dack; Jens Jensen; David Kelsey; Maarten Kremers; Ian Neilson; Stefan Paetow; Hannah Short; Mischa Sallé; Uros Stevanovic
With feedback from	Marina Adomeit; Sander Apweiler; Jim Basney; Christos Kanellopoulos; Johannes Reetz
AARC Document Code:	AARC-G071
Supported by:	<i>This guideline is a joint work of the International Global Trust Federation IGTF, the AARC community, and global partners. The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Community's Horizon2020 Programme by way of the AARC2 project (Grant Agreement No. 730941), EOOSC-hub (Grant Agreement 777536), as part of the GEANT 2020 Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA) under Grant Agreement No. 856726 (GM4-3), as well as from other sources</i>
Publishing Organisations:	IGTF and AARC Community
DOI:	https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5927799

Operational security focus in the BPA: beyond just the IdPs

Community membership management directories and attribute authorities

- integrity of membership
- identification, naming and traceability
- site and service security
- protection on the network
- assertion integrity



Guidelines for Secure Operation of Attribute Authorities and other issuers of access-granting statements (AARC-1048, in collaboration with IGTF AAOPS)

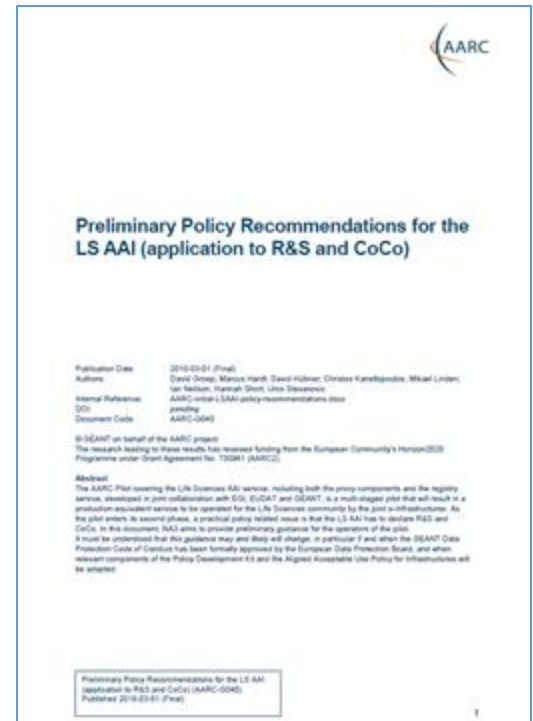
Proxies have more challenges as well: AUPs, T&Cs, Privacy notices, ...

For large 'multi-tenant' proxies

- some subset users in some communities use a set of services – how to present their Terms and Conditions and their privacy policies, so that users
 - only see the T&Cs and notices for services they will access
 - this does not need to be manually configured for each community
 - is automatically updated when services join

For community and dedicated proxies

- when new (sensitive) services join, who needs to see the new T&Cs?
- can we communicate existing acceptance of T&Cs to downstream services?



beyond AARC-G040

What is an acceptable user experience in clicking through agreements?
What is effective in exploiting the WISE Baseline AUP? What do researchers need?

‘with fewer clicks to more resources’

WISE Baseline AUP




Template for a common and cascading AUP and T&C notice by intent focusses primarily on *acceptable use*

- do not dwell on unintended use
- guarantee and service levels are T&Cs, not acceptable use interoperability

Placeholder model for

- *scope of the AUP* (purpose binding)
 - mirrored in Service Security operational baseline
- 10 commandments
- placeholder for additional T&Cs
- privacy notice references and authority



The WISE Baseline Acceptable Use Policy and Conditions of Use
Version 1, 25 Feb 2019

Authors: Members of the WISE Community SCI Working Group.
e-mail: sci@lists.wise-community.org

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Other Sources / Attribution / Acknowledgements: "EGI Acceptable Use Policy and Conditions of Use", used under CC BY-NC-SA 4.0. The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Community's Horizon2020 Programme under Grant Agreement No. 730941 (AARC2).

WISE Baseline AUP template v1.0.1

When using the baseline AUP text below, curly brackets "{ }" (coloured blue) indicate text which should be replaced as appropriate to the community, agency or infrastructure presenting the AUP to the user. Angle brackets "< >" (coloured green) indicate text which is optional and should be deleted or replaced as indicated. Other text should not be changed.

Acceptable Use Policy and Conditions of Use

This Acceptable Use Policy and Conditions of Use ("AUP") defines the rules and conditions

How many of these?



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DG COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS, CONTENT AND TECHNOLOGY
Directorate C - Enabling and Emerging Technologies
Unit C.1 - High Performance Computing and Applications

EOSC EU Node User Access Policy
Version 1.0

USER ACCESS POLICY

ATLAS VIRTUAL ORGANISATION OF HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING

Home / AUP

EGI Configuration Database Acceptable Use Policy and Conditions of Use (AUP)

This Acceptable Use Policy and Conditions of Use ("AUP") defines the rules and conditions that govern your access to and use (including transmission, processing, and storage of data) of the resources and services ("Services") as granted by the EGI Federation, and the Virtual Organisation to which you belong, for the purpose of meeting the goals of EGI, namely to deliver advanced computing services to support researchers, multinational projects and research infrastructures, and the goals of your Virtual Organisation or Research Community.

1. You shall only use the Services in a manner consistent with the purposes and limitations described above; you shall show consideration towards other users including by not causing harm to the Services; you have an obligation to collaborate in the resolution of issues arising from your use of the Services.
2. You shall only use the Services for lawful purposes and not breach, attempt to breach, nor circumvent administrative or security controls.
3. You shall respect intellectual property and confidentiality agreements.
4. You shall protect your access credentials (e.g. passwords, private keys or multi-factor tokens); no intentional sharing is permitted.
5. You shall keep your registered information correct and up to date.
6. You shall promptly report known or suspected security breaches, credential compromise, or misuse to the security contact stated below; and report any compromised credentials to the relevant issuing authorities.
7. Reliance on the Services shall only be to the extent specified by any applicable service level agreements listed below. Use without such agreements is at your own risk.
8. Your personal data will be processed in accordance with the privacy statements referenced below.
9. Your use of the Services may be restricted or suspended, for administrative, operational, or security reasons, without prior notice and without compensation.
10. If you violate these rules, you may be liable for the consequences, which may include your account being suspended and a report being made to your home organisation or to law enforcement.

The administrative contact for this AUP is: operations@egi.eu

The security contact for this AUP is: abuse@egi.eu

The privacy notice is located at <https://gocdb-preprod.egi.eu/privacy.html>.

Return to GOCDB homepage.

Acceptable Use Policy

text This Acceptable Use Policy applies to all members of Xenon Virtual Organisation, hereafter referred to as the VO, with reference to use of the European Grid Infrastructure (EGI), hereafter referred to as the Grid. The BiG Grid Executive Team owns and gives authority to this policy.

Goal and description of the Xenon VO

The Xenon VO xenon.biggrid.nl is the incubator grid community for work on the international Xenon 1T and related experiments in the search for dark matter. Members of the VO will work to build, understand and analyse the detector and results related to the Xenon experiment and to "Monte-Carlo" studies that will be used to design, build and understand the detector, as well as work with the supporting computing infrastructure to make this happen. Members and Managers of the VO agree to be bound by the Grid Acceptable Usage Rules, VO Security Policy and other relevant Grid Policies, and to use the Grid only in the furtherance of the stated goal of the VO.

AARC G082 Notice Management by Proxies

Four presentation models. In order of preference

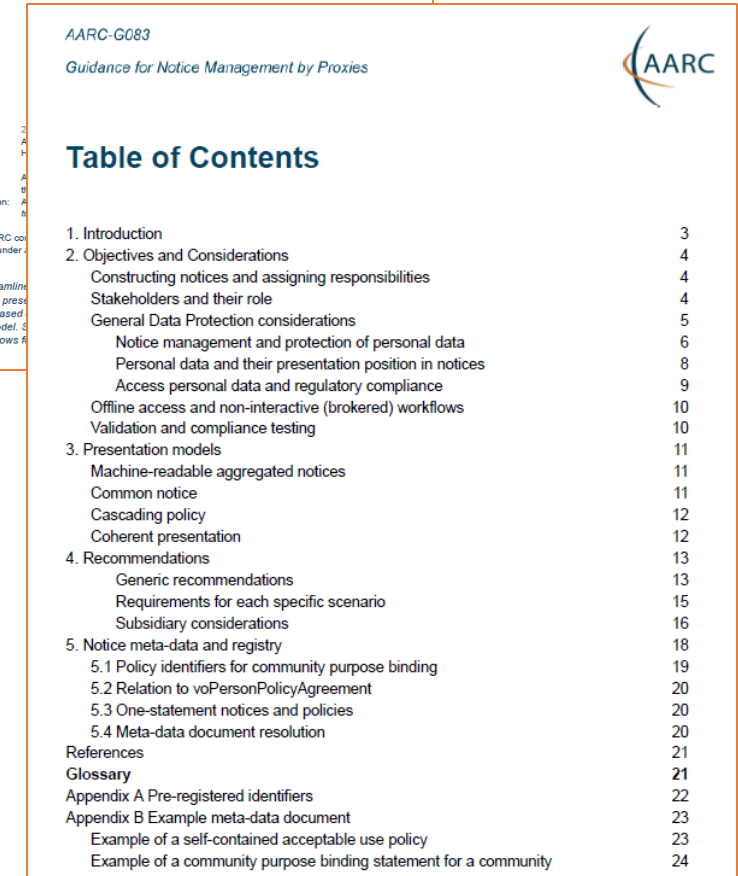
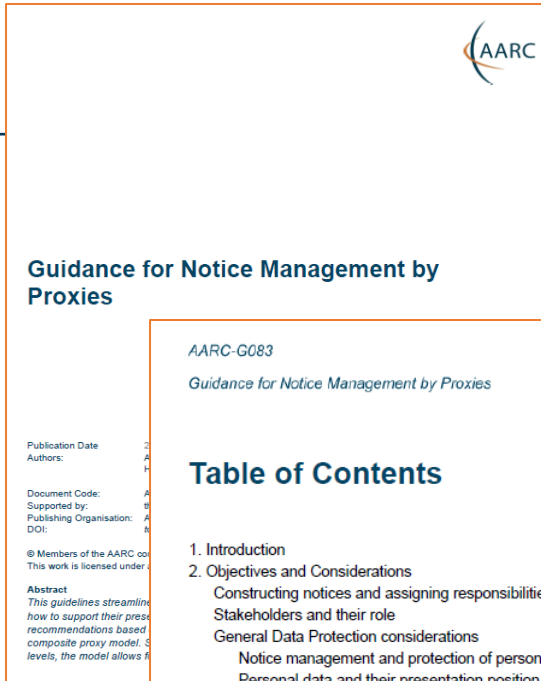
1. machine-readable aggregated notice
2. common notice (single common authority domain)
3. cascading notices (assume responsibility for underlings)
4. coherent presentation (you show what you need, but not more)

Generic recommendations

- use the WISE Baseline AUP composition model, record what and when user confirmed acceptance, and be able to confirm this downstream

plus a machine-actionable model to construct notices based on a hierarchy of proxies

- sufficient to build you a comprehensive WISE Baseline AUP
- and a set of privacy notices (for those GDPR encumbered)
- plus a namespace inspired by RFC6711's LoA registry



The image shows the Table of Contents for the document 'Guidance for Notice Management by Proxies' (AARC-G083). It features the AARC logo in the top right corner. The table lists the following sections and their corresponding page numbers:

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AARC Ixxx Lightweight Community Management

“small to mid-sized communities do not have the resources to maintain a bespoke community management policy”

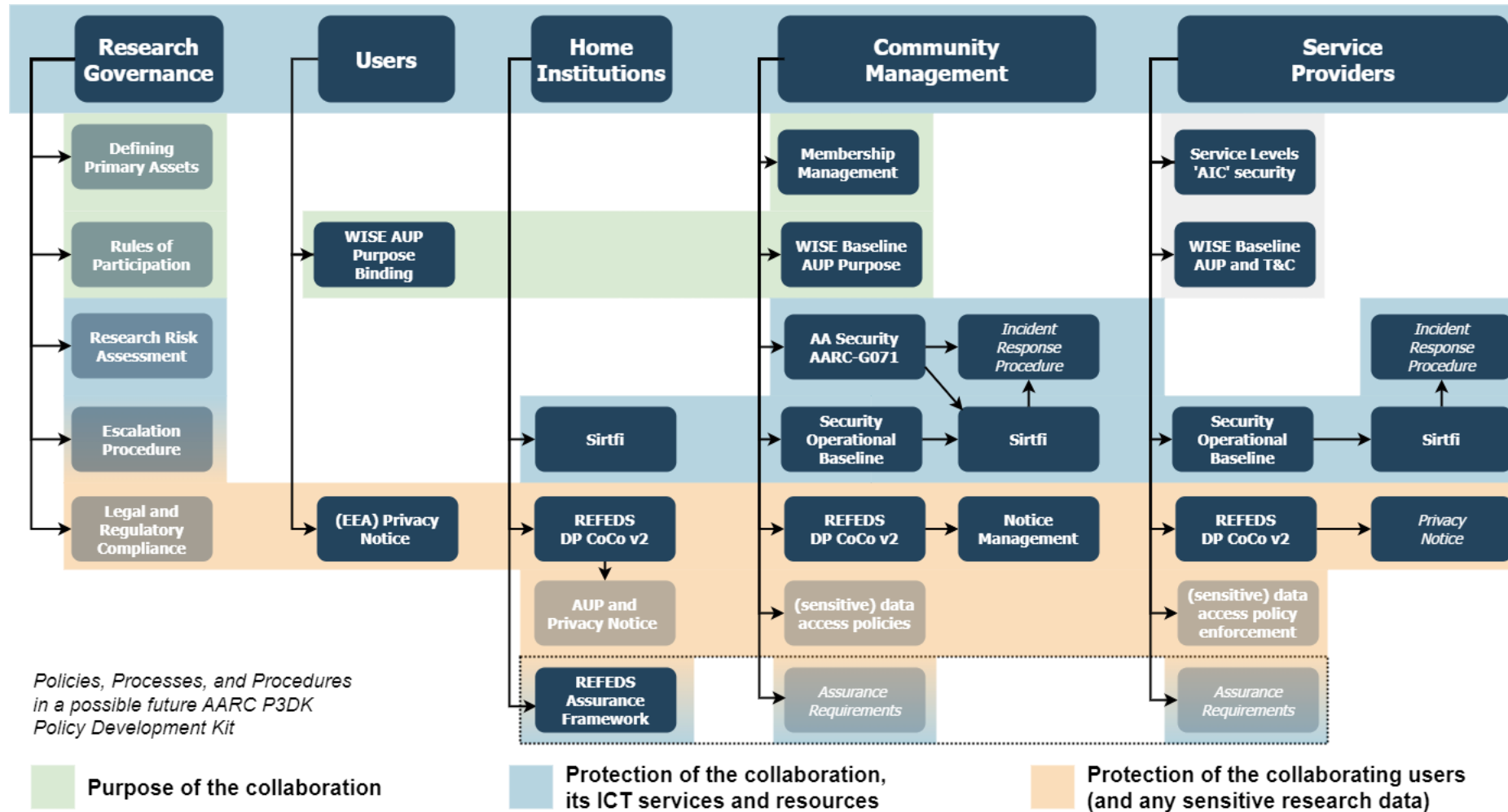
this leaves communities *and SP operators* unclear about trust assurance level of members

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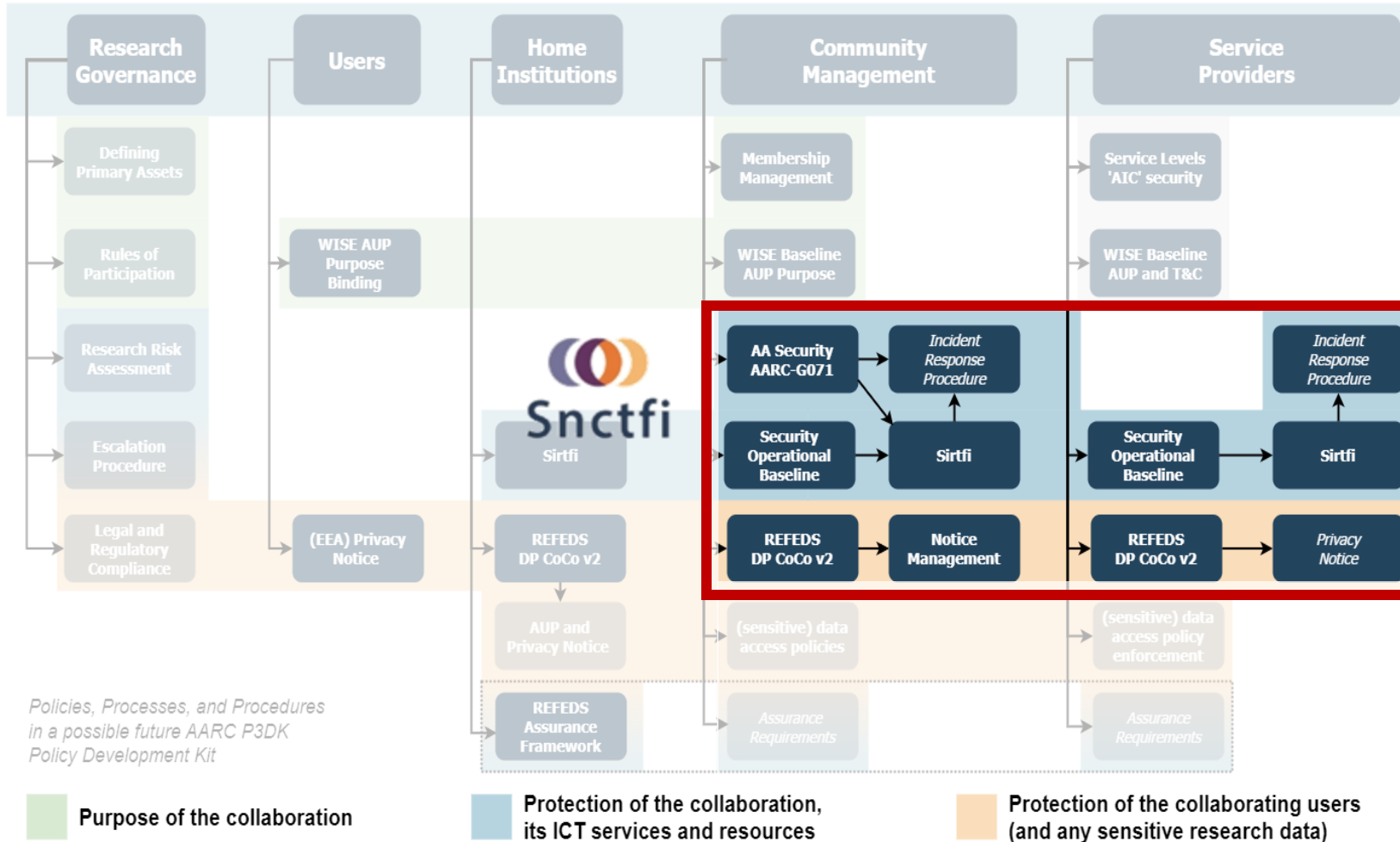
5 commandments

- **Unique Name**
- **AUP Compliance**
- **Privacy Awareness**
- **Valid Authorizations**
- **Incident Response**

Policy Development Kit: simplify by re-using good practice



Policy Development Kit: simplify by re-using good practice



Policies, Processes, and Procedures in a possible future AARC P3DK Policy Development Kit

communities sourcing 'well-operated' community platforms



and a few more ...

through their scale gets federations to trust our AARC 'middle boxes'



AARC Engagement Group for Infrastructures

The forum of e/r-Infras that operate an AARC BPA complaint AAI. It's a closed group on purpose as we want to get feedback from the hands on group. They approve the AARC guidelines.

Technical WG

- Led by Nicolas and Christos
- Where technical guidelines are discussed
- Anybody can join the discussion:
<https://lists.geant.org/sympa/info/aarc-architecture>

Policy WG

- Led by Dave and David
- Supported by EnCo and IGTF
- Anybody can join the discussion:
policy@aacrc-community.org
<https://lists.geant.org/sympa/info/aarc-na3>

*With many thanks to David Groep
for Input of the slides*

Thank you Any Questions?

maarten.kremers@surf.nl



<https://aarc-community.org>

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