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Policy Innovations in Federated Identity: Insights from AARC-TREE

Friday, 21 March 2025 09:00 (20 minutes)

The Authentication and Authorisation for Research Collaboration (AARC) Blueprint Architecture has been a foundational framework for authentication and authorisation infrastructures (AAIs) in global research. It supports the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC), national research AAIs, and cross-regional e-infrastructures, offering a unified approach to federated identity management. As the scope and complexity of federated identity models grow, the AARC framework is undergoing critical updates through the AARC-TREE (Technical Revision to Enhance Effectiveness) project.

This presentation focuses on the outcomes from the first year of the two-year AARC-TREE project, particularly on the policy advancements that address the evolving needs of research communities and infrastructures in federated environments for alignment and policy harmonisation

The policy work package worked on:

- Composite-Proxy Scenarios: Development of distinct guidelines, policies, good practices, and procedures to enhance trust, security, and operational interaction in scenarios involving multiple proxies, advancing beyond the traditional AARC Blueprint Architecture.
- Enhanced User Experience: Introducing reference models for acceptable use policies and privacy notice collection to improve cross-infrastructure user interaction, minimizing redundant actions (e.g., requiring users to "click once").
- Updating the AARC Policy Development Kit (PDK) to take account of experiences of e-infrastructures using the original version; to simplify and to meet the requirements of a broader range of e-infrastructures.

Target Audience:
This presentation is directed at research communities and infrastructure providers offering services in federated environments.

Aims of the presentation:

- Raise Awareness: Share insights into the policy work within the AARC community.
- Showcase Progress: Highlight the achievements of AARC-TREE, particularly the policy and procedural advancements.
- Encourage Engagement: Promote feedback on the work done and invite stakeholders—especially from the Asia-Pacific region—to engage with AEGIS and contribute to ongoing efforts.

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