



FIM4L update for REFEDS

September 14th 2022



A libraries principle: protecting academic freedom

Authentication should be managed in the right way, protecting privacy. The FIM4L working group helps libraries with this by providing recommendations. We serve a global community with an email list of about 70 people.
(www.fim4l.org)

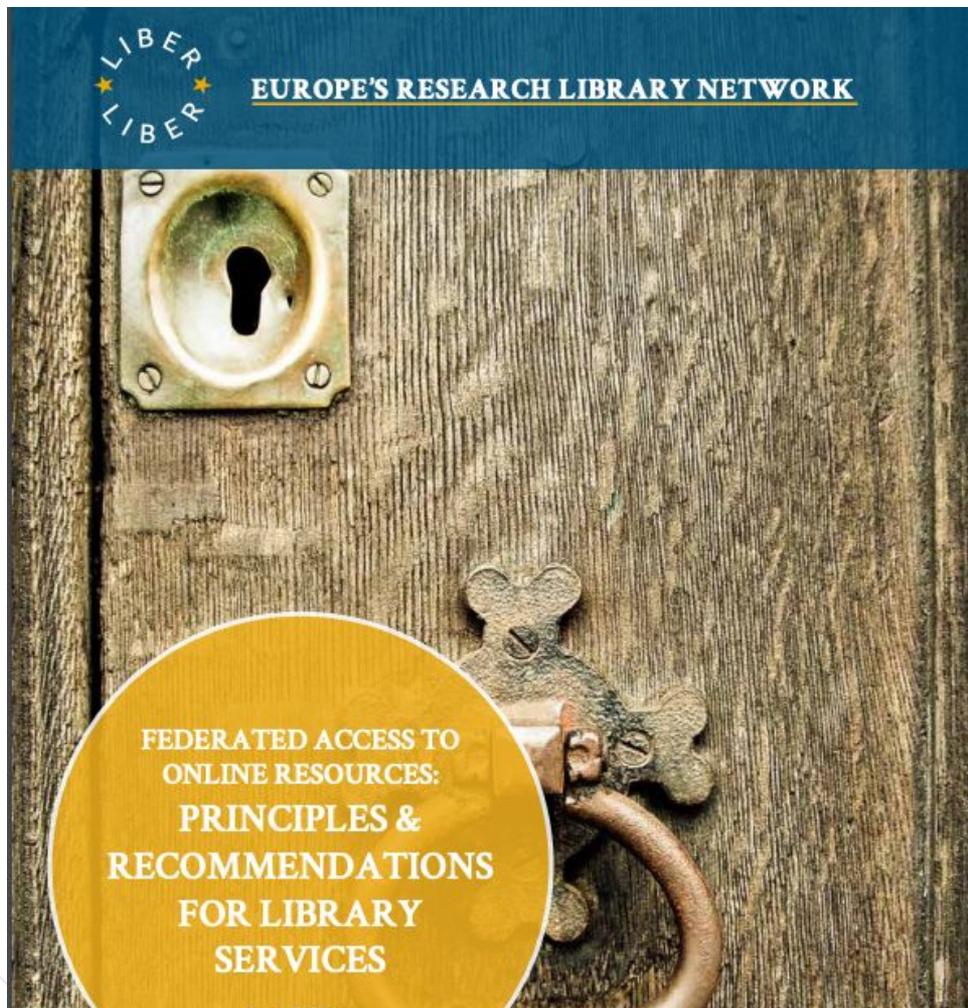
Organization and strategy

The FIM4L initiative is born as a spin-off from the AARC project as a global initiative from librarians. A Working Group was formed under LIBER (Association of EU libraries) by whom we are governed.

We have close ties with Seamless Access, REFEDS and Geant.

We are a library-led community for librarians. Create awareness, explain possibilities and serve with recommendations for both IdP's and SP's.

In 2020 we published our Recommendations



FEDERATED ACCESS TO
ONLINE RESOURCES:
PRINCIPLES &
RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR LIBRARY
SERVICES



EUROPE'S RESEARCH LIBRARY NETWORK

Version 2

Facilitated Access to
Online Resources:
Principles &
Recommendations
for Library
Services

The recommendations' core principles can be summarized as:

- Federated authentication is a viable alternative to IP based access with a strong set of benefits for libraries and publishers
- Correct configuration is key to the successful operation of a Single Sign-On connection
- User privacy should be always be protected by all parties involved

Recommendations

zooming in to 4.A and 4.B

- An IdP can be configured to release either a transient or a persistent alphanumeric identifier.
- In version 2 we aligned the namings to the REFEDS entity categories: "Anonymous Access" and "Pseudonymous Access".
- We don't make a recommended choice in the document but it preferable to choice option pseudonymous (4.B)

Where are we now

- Talks with Elsevier about "agile" access
- Published as a blogpost on [LIBER website](#)
- By "agile" we mean that an IdP can release an persistent identifier or not.
- Results:
 - Anonymous works for some products, some not.
 - You cannot change during a session, and you can't login anonymous anymore after a pseudonymous session.
 - There's a need for building trust between libraries and publishers to solve the difficulties.
 - This can be done by contracts and technical transparency. (CoCo for libraries?)
 - User awareness and communication should be part of SSO implementation.



THANKS!

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