Entity Category Consultation: Academia

Overview

The REFEDS Steering Committee has approved the launch of a consultation on the adoption of the Academia Entity Category by REFEDS. The consultation opened on 12th August 2015 and closed on 23rd September 2015. Participants are invited to review the full text and make change proposals in the table below or by email to the REFEDS Coordinators and to express their support / dissension for the category. It is recommended that you also read the prepared notes on the proposal. This proposal was NOT ACCEPTED. A revised consultation has been launched.

Statements of Support / Dissension

As this category has been contentious in the community, we are asking for organisations to express their support or dissension below to allow us to gauge the appropriateness of REFEDS adopting this approach.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jim Basney</td>
<td>NCSA / XSEDE (InCommon)</td>
<td>Support: This is needed by CiLogon to support SeedMe access for academic but not commercial use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niels van Dijk</td>
<td>GEANT Project; InAcademia Service</td>
<td>Support: This is needed by the InAcademia Service to support access for academic users, but not others (K12, Homeless IdPs, etc)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romain Wartel</td>
<td>CERN / WLCG</td>
<td>Support: This would help supporting the needs of the High Energy Physics community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jozef Misulka</td>
<td>LINDAT/CLARIN</td>
<td>Support: This would simplify filtering out IdPs not meeting our AAI requirements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Change Log

Change Log for the Consultation on the Academia Entity Category. The Consultation started on 12th August 2015 and closes on 23rd September 2015 (5pm CEST). Please fill in your proposed changes to Academia Category below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Current Text</th>
<th>Proposed Text / Query</th>
<th>Proposer</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Definition</td>
<td><a href="https://github.com/leifj/academia-category">GitHub</a></td>
<td>On GitHub</td>
<td>Raised on github, addressed in forked refeds version.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>a relying party SHOULD NOT assume that an attribute assertion received from an identity provider with the academia entity category represents a Subject (as defined in [TBD]) with any particular affiliation to the organisation on behalf of which the identity provider operates.</td>
<td><a href="https://github.com/leifj/academia-category">GitHub</a></td>
<td>Eric Goodman</td>
<td>Raised on github - #11. Addressed in forked refeds version.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Annotate those member identity providers that represent academic institutions, in order to distinguish them from identity providers that are not able to claim any affiliation with the international research and education community</td>
<td><a href="https://github.com/leifj/academia-category">GitHub</a></td>
<td>Nick Ray</td>
<td>It is inevitable that wherever the bar is set there will be groups that fall outside this. Raised on github - #7. Addressed in new version.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>If any organization explicitly denoted as an academic institution by a government entity in the jurisdiction where the claim of being an academic institution is made</td>
<td><a href="https://github.com/leifj/academia-category">GitHub</a></td>
<td>Nick Ray</td>
<td>Raised on github and addressed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note the full text of the original proposed category is available at: [GitHub](https://github.com/leifj/academia-category/blob/master/academia-entity-category.md). The notes are available at: [Academic-Academia](https://github.com/leifj/academia-category/blob/master/academia-entity-category.md).
unless it is being operated

- by or
- at behalf of and by contract with at least one organization represented by a legal entity in good standing in the community of other academic institutions that fulfills at least one of the criteria below:
- By asserting an identity provider to be a member of the academia entity category a registrar claims that the
  identity provider fulfils the criteria described above in the jurisdiction of the registrar. The intended use for the
  category is: -To allow relying parties a way to decide how to interpret the values of the
eduPersonScopedAffiliation and
  educationOrganizationAttributes attributes within their applications
  Specifically a relying party SHOULD NOT assume that an attribute assertion received from an identity provider
  with the academia entity category represents a Subject (as defined in [SAMLCore]) with any particular affiliation
  to the organization on behalf of which the identity provider is operated. Conversely, the absence of the
  academia category does not mean that the identity provider does not in fact represent one or more academic
  institutions.
  (Effective proposal is to forbid filtering from discovery)

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  to the organization on behalf of which the identity provider is operated. Conversely, the absence of the
  academia category does not mean that the identity provider does not in fact represent one or more academic institutions.
  The category MUST NOT be used for the purposes of gross access control either allowing or disallowing access to
  any subject based only on the presence of an attribute by an identity provider that is or is not associated
  with the entity category. The category MUST NOT be used for the purposes of filtering Identity Provider entities
  from discovery, or excluding them from interoperability with otherwise broadly available services.
  (Effective proposal is to forbid filtering from discovery)

An identity provider annotated with the academia category implies that the registrar has made the determination
that the identity provider SHALL IF it be trusted to assert the following attributes [...] When making the decision to
annotate an identity provider with the academia category a registrar SHALL IF consider the following criteria [...]
Other Comments / Observations