

REFEDS Baseline

an overview - 03/Mar/2022

Introducing the presenters

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- Federation Operator for the Swedish academic federation SWAMID
- Worked with identity federations since 2006.
- Active in various REFEDS WGs

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- Member of the eduPerson schema editorial board, various REFEDS WGs
- Active in Federation space, eduroam etc for many years

Please reach out via eduGAIN Slack

The purpose of Baseline Expectations

- Provides a baseline for enhanced trust
- Enabled collaboration via Federation more predictable
- Ensures that Federation's relevance and strategic value to research and education continues to grow

Introduction to the Baseline

- A set of high level statements that will evolve over time
- Every Federation needs define their own implementation of baseline due to cultural, regulatory, technical and economic differences , to achieve the same goals/outcomes

Expectations on Identity Providers - part 1

[IPO1] Your Identity Provider is operated with organizational-level authority

[IPO2] Your Identity Provider is trusted enough to be used to access your organization's own systems

REFEDS Assurance Framework can help with these expectations

Expectations on Identity Providers - part 2

[IPO3] You publish contact information for your Identity Provider and respond in a timely fashion to operational issues

[IPO4] You apply security practices to protect user information, safeguard transaction integrity, and ensure timely incident response

[IPO5] You ensure the metadata registered in Federation is complete, accurate and up to date

REFEDS SIRTFI can help with IPO3 and IPO4

eduGAIN SAML Profile may help with IPO5

Expectations on Service Providers - part 1

[SPO1] You ensure that controls are in place to protect user privacy in the service

[SPO2] You do not share information received from Identity Providers with third parties without relevant notification and the information is stored only whilst necessary for operational purposes

[SPO6] You publish requirements for any user information required to access your service and ensure these requirements are appropriate and respect privacy

REFEDS Entity Categories can help with these expectations

Expectations on Service Providers - part 2

[SPO3] You publish contact information and respond in a timely fashion to operational issues

[SPO4] You apply security practices to protect user information, safeguard transaction integrity, and ensure timely incident response

[SPO5] You ensure the metadata registered in Federation is complete, accurate and up to date

REFEDS SIRTFI can help with SPO3 and SPO4

eduGAIN SAML Profile may help with SPO5

Expectations on Federation Operators - part 1

[FO1] You focus on trustworthiness of Federation as a primary objective and are transparent about such efforts

[FO2] You publish contact information and respond in a timely fashion to operational issues

eduGAIN membership procedures may help with these expectations

Expectations on Federation Operators - part 2

[FO3] You apply security practices to federation operations and ensure timely incident response

[FO4] You follow good practices to ensure authentic, accurate and interoperable metadata to enable secure and trustworthy federated transactions

eduGAIN Incident Response Handbook may help with FO3

eduGAIN SAML Profile may help with FO4

Expectations on Federation Operators - part 3

[FO5] You implement and support frameworks that improve trustworthy and scalable use of Federation and promote their adoption by members and other participants

[FO6] You collaborate with other organisations to promote realization of baseline expectations nationally and internationally

If you support the REFEDS specifications your federation fulfils FO5

'First rule of baseline is that you talk about baseline' fulfils FO6

Current status

- REFEDS Baseline Expectation is a published REFEDS specification
- Within eduGAIN there is an initiative (eduGAIN Future WG) that is looking into how to recommend the use of Baseline Expectations within eduGAIN
- InCommon has defined their Baseline Expectation (and actively pursuing the next iteration)
- Next steps: Define your own implementation of baseline expectations...

Q+A