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# eIRG: Results of the Workshop Sessions on AuthZ and some highlights of the White Paper



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- **eIRG = e-Infrastructure Reflection Group**
  - Group of policy makers
    - Appointed by their governments
  - Under the auspices of the EU Presidency
  - Mostly concentrated on grids
    - Although a wider vision is gaining momentum
- **The activities**
  - A workshop of experts on e-infrastructures
  - A white paper containing analysis and recommendations
- **The past results (as seen from our side)**
  - Endorsment of the EUGridPMA and TACAR
- **The last results**
  - Workshop on AuthZ
  - Recommendations on convergence

- Many different (mostly incompatible) approaches
  - Grids
  - NRENs
  - Industry
- The paths to crawl
  - Syntax convergence in interfaces and protocols
  - Semantics convergence in attributes
  - Trust convergence

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- An infrastructure usable all over Europe (and beyond) enabling seamless sharing of e-science resources
- Able to support seamless and location independent access to network and application services
- The special requirements of the industrial sector will lead to specific rules for industrial federations
- Conditions for federated e-science
  - Absolute respect for site autonomy
  - Possibility of sharing a limited subset of resources
  - AUP is a pre-requisite

- **Convergence at a technical level**
  - Protocols: Initial common agreement on SAML and Web Services
  - Semantics and attribute convergence starting
  - Need for a bootstrap method for trust anchor exchange
- **Policies and trust. Beyond technological issues**
  - Federated models
  - The Cotswolds Group
    - A (con-)federation of existing (NREN/international project) federations
    - Network peering model considered relevant to extending coverage
    - Set of criteria needed to judge whether to accept a 'candidate' federation
    - Key action: production of a 'cookbook' to describe the criteria and the selection process
  - Need for translating federation policies into machine readable format
    - Automatic negotiation resulting in trust anchor exchange

- Work towards a common federation for academia and research institutes
  - Based on possibly preliminary federation policies
  - As soon as realistically feasible
- Be prepared to change federation rules as we scale up



- Convergence and interoperability for authorization mechanisms is the most important point to harmonize policy on. This could be shaped in the form of a clearing house for enabling interoperation between technically different schemas. An Authority could define equivalences at this level, given that a common AUP has already been defined.
- The Authorization Clearing House would act in a mode similar to that of the EUGridPMA, setting levels of equivalent strength and enabling resource owners and administrators to make informed decisions about configuring their policy decision and enforcement points.

- Cooperation and support for the efforts in building a seamless single sign-on solution for ubiquitous network and services access through European scientific and academic institutions is needed i.e. in plain words: integrating EGEE AA and GN2 AA.
- Cooperation and support for the efforts in establishing an open trans-national trust hub for interoperation of AA infrastructures is essential, i.e. in plain words: the idea of the Cotswolds Group analyzed in the document.