

**Key Exchange Without Forward Secrecy is Not Recommended**  
**draft-mattsson-tls-psk-ke-dont-dont-dont-00**

Abstract

Key exchange without forward secrecy enables passive monitoring [RFC7258]. Massive pervasive monitoring attacks relying on key exchange without forward secrecy has been reported [I-D.ietf-emu-aka-pfs]. If key exchange without Diffie-Hellman is used, compromise of the long-term authentication key enables a passive attacker to compromise past and future sessions. All TLS 1.2 cipher suites without forward secrecy has been marked as NOT RECOMMENDED [RFC8447], and static RSA has been forbidden in TLS 1.3 [RFC8446]. psk\_ke does not provide forward secrecy and is NOT RECOMMENDED. This document sets the IANA registration of psk\_ke to NOT RECOMMENDED.

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## [1.](#) Terminology

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "NOT RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [BCP 14](#) [[RFC2119](#)] [[RFC8174](#)] when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

## [2.](#) IANA Considerations

IANA is requested to update the PskKeyExchangeMode registry under the Transport Layer Security (TLS) Parameters heading. For psk\_ke the "Recommended" value has been set to "N".

## [3.](#) References

### [3.1.](#) Normative References

- [RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", [BCP 14](#), [RFC 2119](#), DOI 10.17487/RFC2119, March 1997, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc2119>>.
- [RFC8174] Leiba, B., "Ambiguity of Uppercase vs Lowercase in [RFC 2119](#) Key Words", [BCP 14](#), [RFC 8174](#), DOI 10.17487/RFC8174, May 2017, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc8174>>.



### **3.2. Informative References**

- [I-D.ietf-emu-aka-pfs]  
Arkko, J., Norrman, K., and V. Torvinen, "Perfect-Forward Secrecy for the Extensible Authentication Protocol Method for Authentication and Key Agreement (EAP-AKA' PFS)", [draft-ietf-emu-aka-pfs-05](#) (work in progress), October 2020.
- [RFC7258] Farrell, S. and H. Tschofenig, "Pervasive Monitoring Is an Attack", [BCP 188](#), [RFC 7258](#), DOI 10.17487/RFC7258, May 2014, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc7258>>.
- [RFC8446] Rescorla, E., "The Transport Layer Security (TLS) Protocol Version 1.3", [RFC 8446](#), DOI 10.17487/RFC8446, August 2018, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc8446>>.
- [RFC8447] Salowey, J. and S. Turner, "IANA Registry Updates for TLS and DTLS", [RFC 8447](#), DOI 10.17487/RFC8447, August 2018, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc8447>>.

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