

IETF 120 - OAuth WG - AuthZEN Profile of RAR

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<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-brossard-oauth-rar-authzen/>

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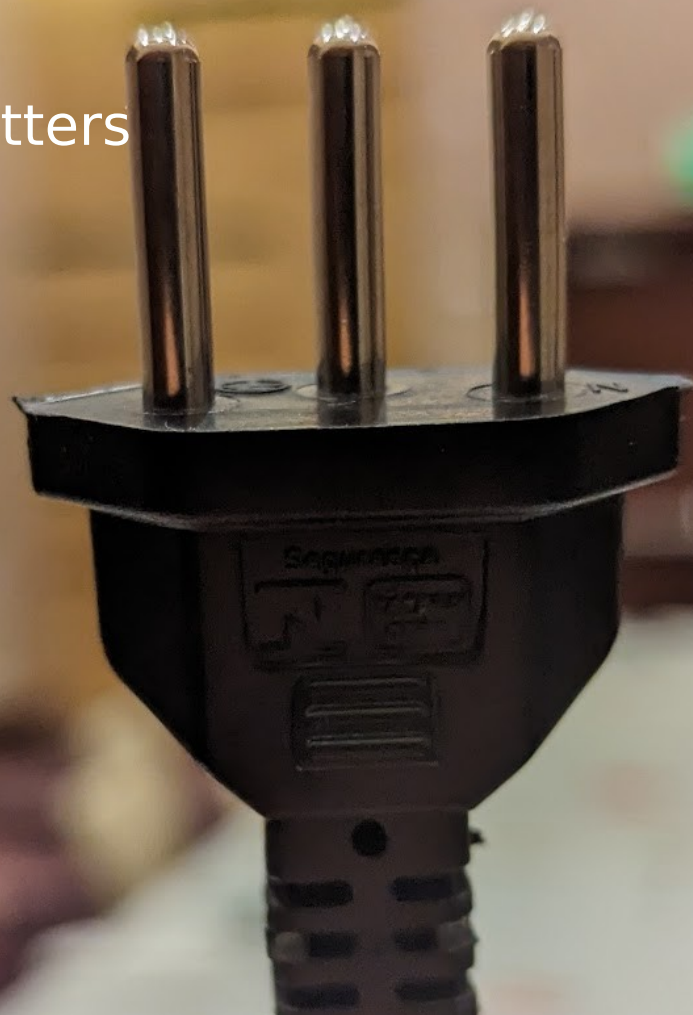
Before IETF 120

Just a moment...



This is not a
Cedar

Interoperability matters





What is OpenID AuthZEN

Why

- The #1 issue on OWASP's Top 10 is [A01:2021-Broken Access Control](#)

Goal

- AuthZEN is a protocol under OI DF to standardize the interaction between PEPs and PDPs
 - 12 compliant OSS and proprietary PDP implementations (and counting)
- Increase interoperability between existing standards and approaches to authorization
- Standardize interoperable communication patterns between major authZ components
- Establish and promote the use of externalized authZ as the preferred pattern

API

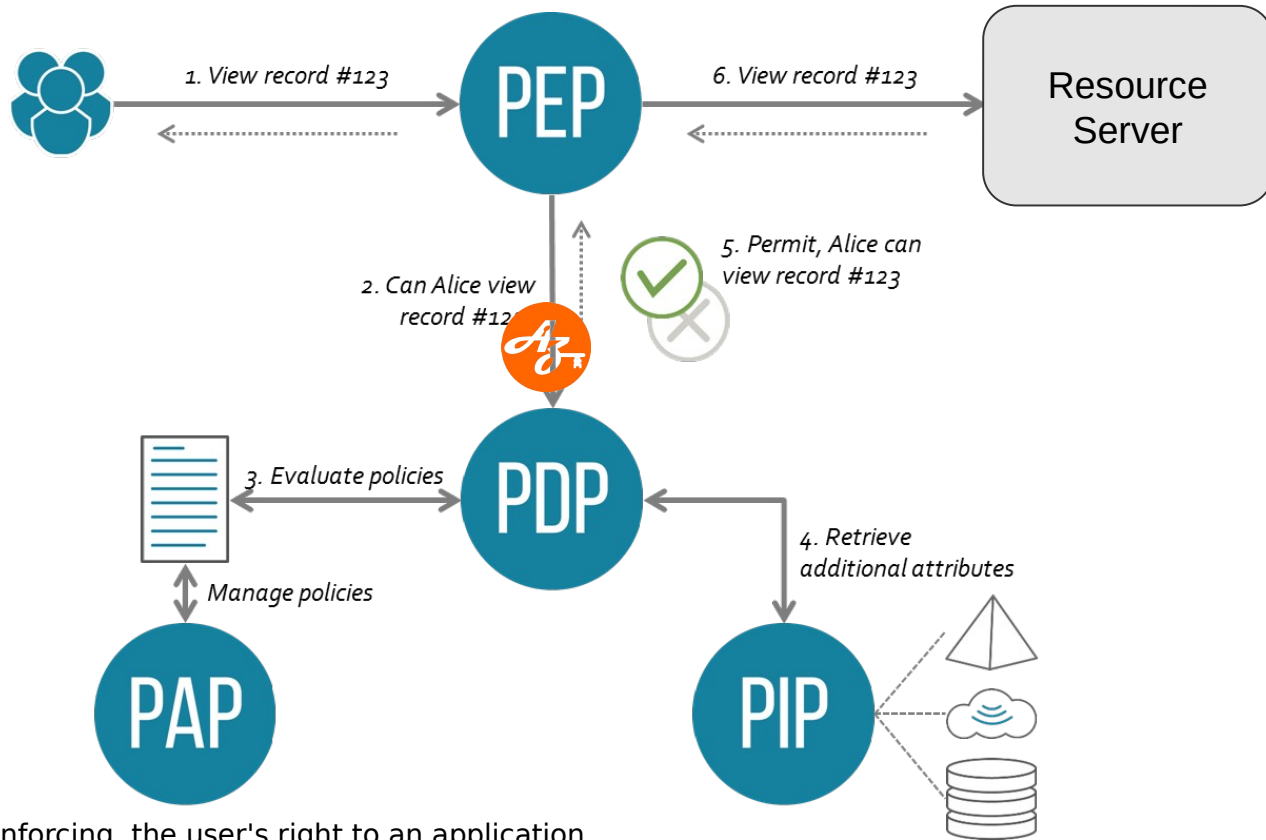
- AuthZEN defines a request/response schema & protocol:

OpenID AuthZEN Sample Request & Response

```
{
  "subject": {
    "type": "user",
    "id": "Alice"
  },
  "resource": {
    "type": "account",
    "id": "123"
  },
  "action": {
    "name": "read"
  },
  "context": {
    "time": "1985-10-26T01:22-07:00"
  }
}
```

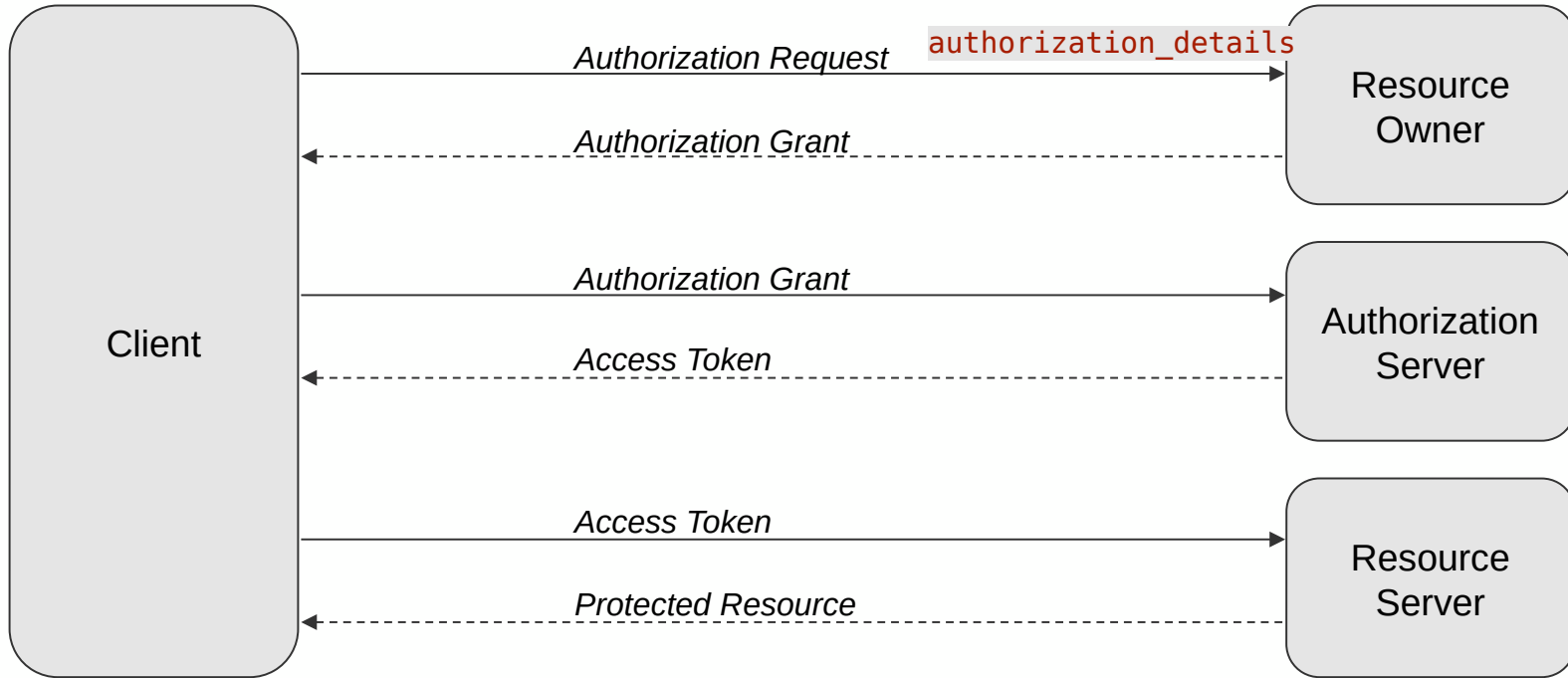
```
{
  "decision": true
}
```

The P*P Pattern: Access Control



□ ABAC is about controlling/enforcing the user's right to an application

The RS/AS Pattern: Access Delegation



Combined Architecture? (See IIW XXXVII)

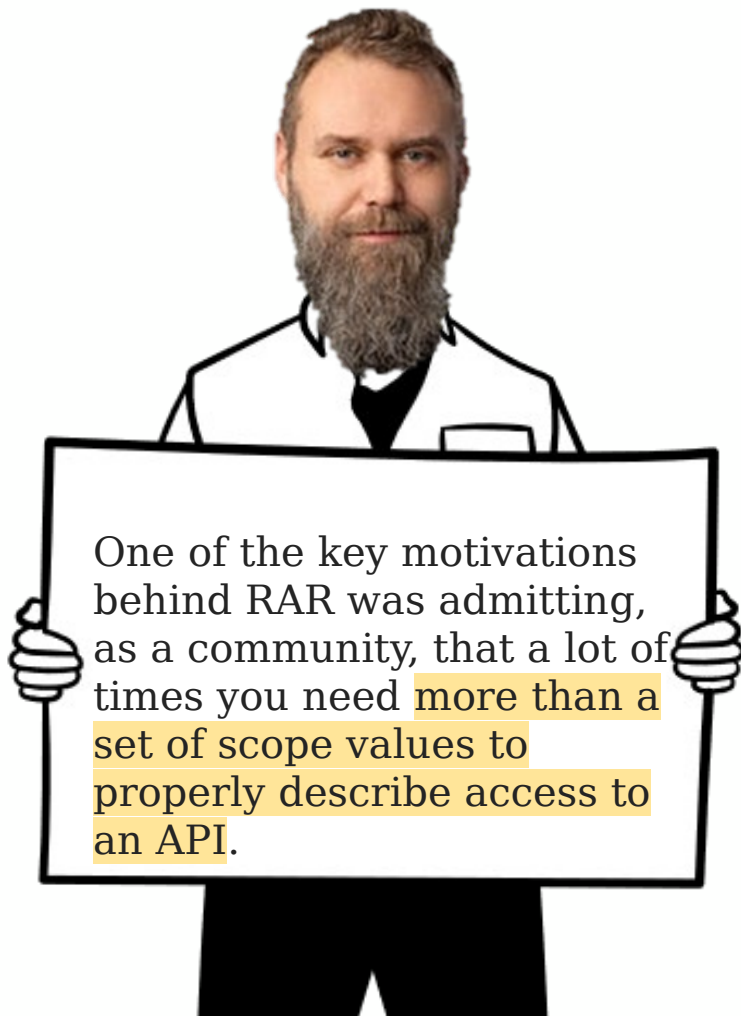


Rich Authorization Requests (rfc9396)

OAuth 2.0 defines the scope parameter that allows OAuth clients to specify the limited capability of an access token.

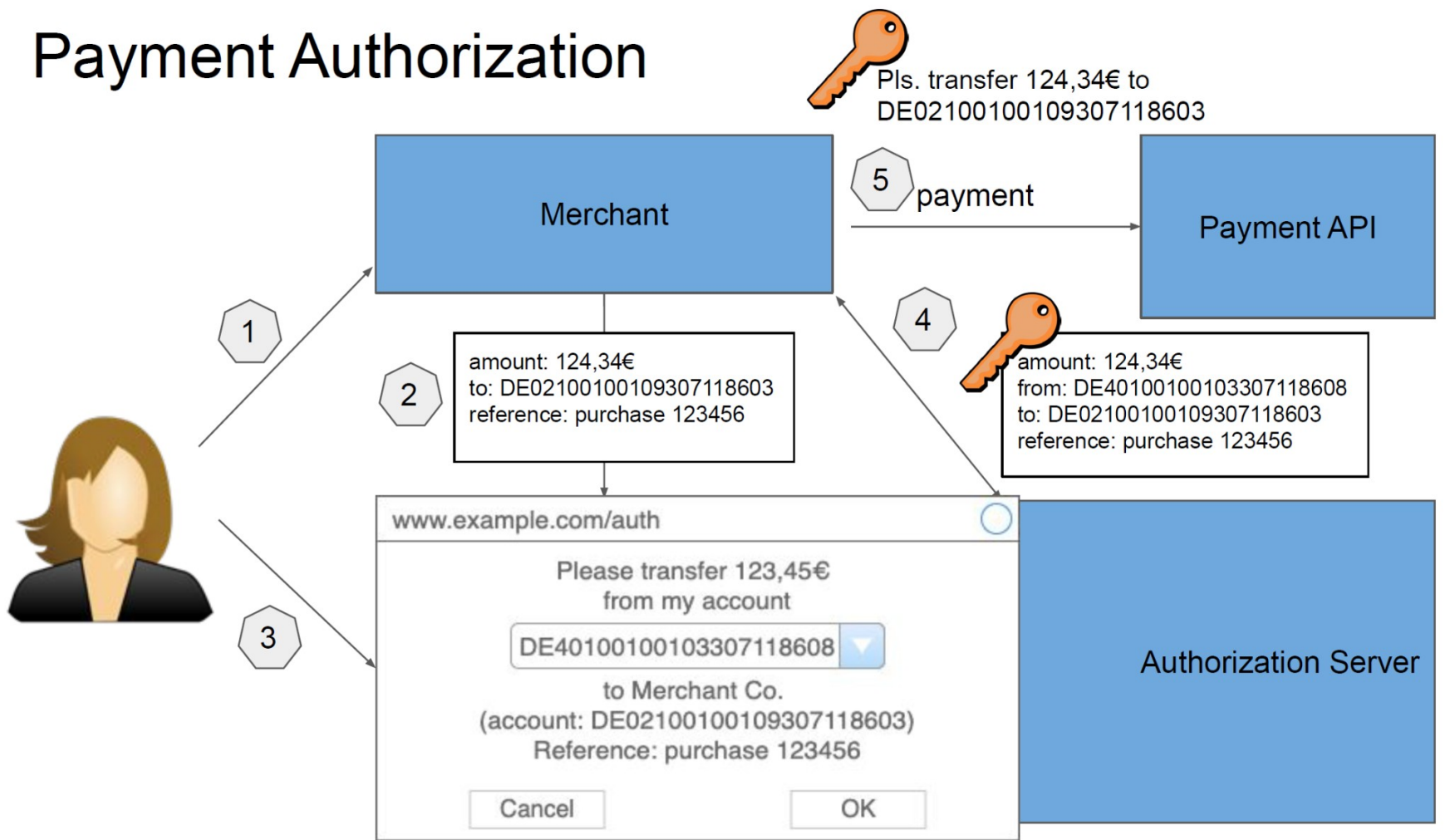
- Sufficient to implement static scenarios and coarse-grained authorization requests
- Not sufficient to specify fine-grained authorization requirements

RFC 9396 introduces a new parameter `authorization_details` that allows clients to specify their fine-grained authorization requirements using the expressiveness of JSON [RFC8259] data structures.



One of the key motivations behind RAR was admitting, as a community, that a lot of times you need more than a set of scope values to properly describe access to an API.

Payment Authorization



A high-angle photograph of a suspension bridge spanning a dense, dark green forest. The bridge has a wooden deck and metal railings with a chain-link fence. Several people are walking across the bridge, looking out over the trees. The text 'Bridge between OAuth & AuthZ' is overlaid on the right side of the image in a large, white, sans-serif font.

Bridge between OAuth & AuthZ

AuthZEN Request/Response Profile for OAuth 2.0 Rich Authorization Requests

- <https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-brossard-oauth-rar-authzen/>
- The aim of this profile is to define an AuthZEN-conformant profile of the OAuth 2.0 Rich Authorization Requests [RFC9396]

Why?

- While RAR is about constraining access delegation, it still expresses it in terms of a request that is in line with the AuthZEN format
- We should leverage AuthZEN therefore as a format
- It can help the AS pass the request through to a PDP for fine-grained decision-making

Some feedback (already)

- The use of the “type” field
 - In our proposal we use it to indicate the type of request (AuthZEN) vs. ‘plain’ JSON
 - But our understanding is that the type is useful for the business purpose (see FAPI)
- The RAR spec was intended to provide a mechanism for an AS to communicate to an RP the details of a consent granted by resource owner.
 - Allow the AS to communicate back to the RP any constraints - limits etc, that the resource owner set
 - Allow the RP to understand the bounds of the context that it presents to the user through the various flows they offer
- The RAR type is used a like a scope. i.e. from a Open Banking POV, participants will be registered with the scheme and as part of the registration be enabled as an RP that can initiate payment, open

Some feedback (cont'd)

- Ralph
 - Pushing what in my opinion an entirely AS<->RS concern out to the RP will struggle to be adopted by most developer communities as RP's will justifiably view this complexity as being unnecessary and primarily an AS/RS concern.
 - If the AS/RS want to agree a standard to make policy decisioning by the RS/PEP easier then the AS can model the AT Content or Introspection content in whatever model it wants. If there's a standard for it then great! But it's not an RP's concern how or which standard a bank uses to provide information (PIP) to the RS/PEP.

Future AuthZEN Work Relevant to RAR

AuthZEN is planning a Search API

- Alice wants to list accounts. Which accounts can she view?
- This can be extremely useful to enrich access tokens or the RAR `authorization_details` object itself

```
"authorization_details": [
{
  "type":
  "account_information",
  "access": {
    "accounts": [],
    "balances": [],
    "transactions": []
  },
  "recurringIndicator":true
}]
```

```
"authorization_details":[
  {
    "type":"account_information",
    "access":{"accounts":[
      { "iban":"DE23...9"},
      {"maskedPan":"123456xxxxxx1234"}
    ],
    "balances":[{"iban":"DE23...9"}
    ],
    "Transactions":[
      {"iban":"DE23...9"},
      {"maskedPan":"123456xxxxxx1234"}
    ]
  }
]
```

Beyond the proposed profile, other questions

- Relationship to Transaction Tokens
- Relationship to other areas of OAuth that could query authorization engines
 - Dynamically generated claims (where an AS asks a PDP which claims can be inserted inside a token during the issue flow)
 - Deciding overall whether a token should be issued
 - Selective disclosure
- Relationship to Identity Assertion Authorization Grant

Further Reading

- Rich Authorization Requests <https://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-lodderstedt-oauth-rar>
 - IETF-106, 21.11.2019, Singapore
 - Brian Campbell, Justin Richer, Torsten Lodderstedt
- AuthZEN Request/Response Profile for OAuth 2.0 Rich Authorization Requests
 - [IETF submission](#)
- Applying RAR in OAuth 2 (and GNAP) | by Justin Richer
- IIW37_S7I_PDP & PEP vs. AS/RS Smackdown (How to map them properly?)

Thank you