Scoping a PID Policy for the EOSC

FREYA project

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The EOSC FAIR and Architecture WGs are jointly developing recommendations for a PID Policy for the EOSC. The FREYA project is working with the WGs in this task and is developing policy recommendations. As a first step, it is necessary to set the scope of the policy to ensure that the policy covers the appropriate aspects of the use of PIDs within the EOSC, and a discussion can be held on what should be included or excluded from the policy. In this document, we describe those topics that we consider should be in scope of a PID policy; the details of how a policy might be proposed for each topic will then be the subject of a discussion document with detailed recommendations.

We take as a baseline the statements from the Turning FAIR into Reality report that:

* digital objects should be associated with a PID, and
* to support the use of PIDs in the EOSC data infrastructure, PID services should be available.

Thus we need to cover within the PID policy:

1. A definition of terminology for PIDs for use within the EOSC. This would include the properties that we consider as essential to characterise a PID and its association with digital objects within the EOSC.
2. In particular, we would consider which classes of digital objects should be considered as essential for use in a practical working EOSC, and thus should have a PID associated with them, and which should be recommended as suitable for further development to enhance the capability of the EOSC.
3. Together, these would allow us to recommend what properties an issuer of a particular set of PIDs should enforce to qualify as valid PIDs within the EOSC.
4. A definition of recommended core PID services which are essential for the operation of the EOSC, and additionally those PID services that are desirable to enhance the functionality of the EOSC. This should include a consideration of which core PID services should be included within the EOSC Federating Core.
5. Classes of PIDs and associated services are governed by PID Authorities and supplied by PID Service Providers (PSPs). The Policy should include a consideration of what criteria PID Authorities and PSPs should satisfy so that they can be seen as trusted to support suitable PIDs and PIDs services within the needs of the EOSC, and thus qualify as suitable for use within the EOSC.
6. A discussion on the Governance of PID Services within the EOSC structures, especially considering the necessarily global reach of PID infrastructure. This should also consider sustainability actions which the EOSC might undertake to maintain PID infrastructure.

We would expect that the recommendations would be illustrated by typical generic usage scenarios to support the recommended policy choices.