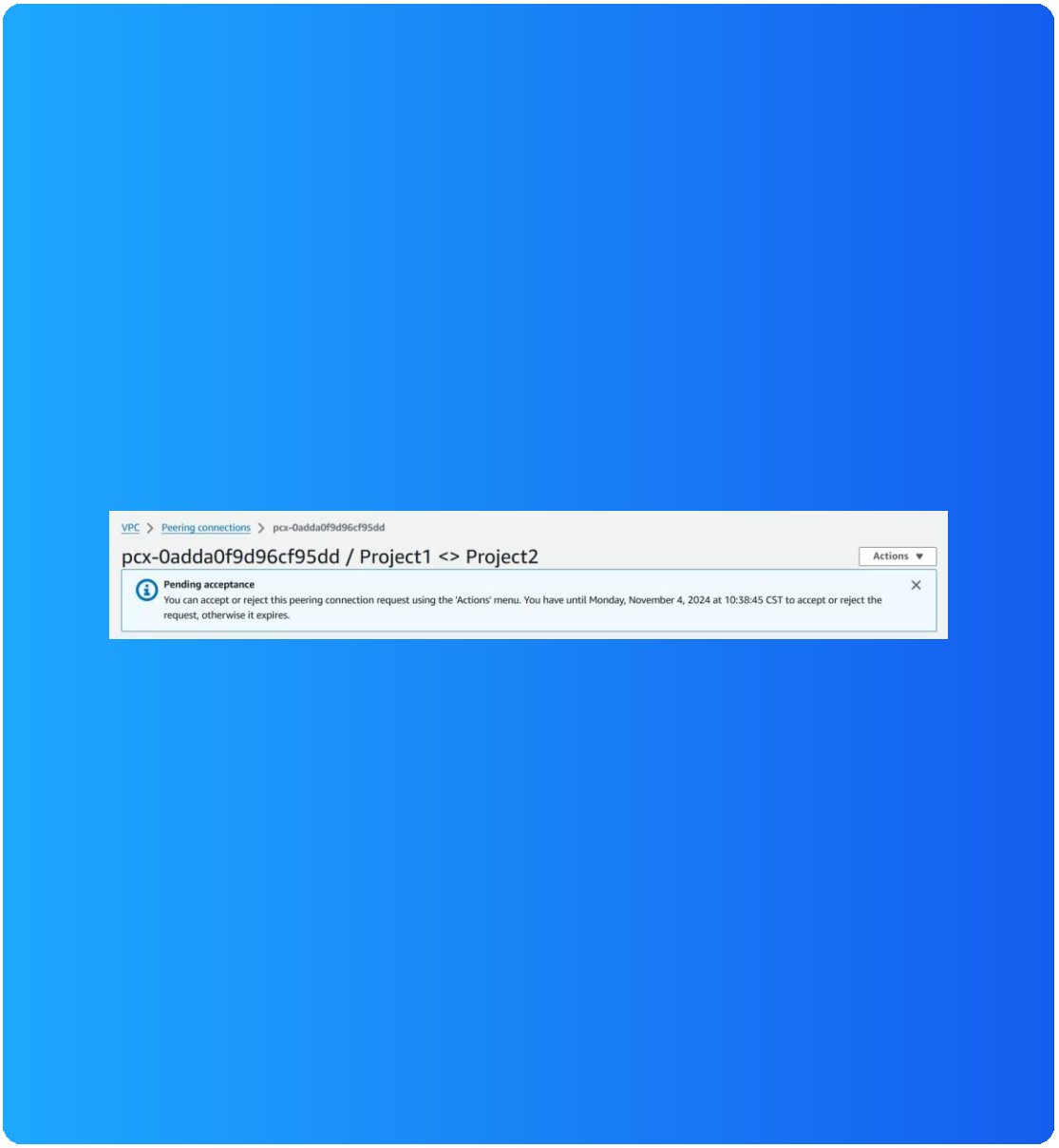
VPC Peering

Maulik Patel



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Introducing Today's Project!

What is Amazon VPC?

Amazon VPC is AWS's foundational networking service that lets us create our own network, control traffic flow and security and oraganize our resources into public/private subents!

How I used Amazon VPC in this project

I used Amazon VPC to set up a multi-VPC architecture, Create a peering connection between the and update security group rules to run a successful connectivity test to validate VPC peering set up.

One thing I didn't expect in this project was...

I didn't expect to need a Public IPv4 address for EC2 Instance connect to work. Also didn't expect that Elastic IPs cna assign static public IPv4 addresses to resources.

This project took me...

This project took me 1.5 Hours!

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In the first part of my project...

Step 1 - Set up my VPC

In this step, we leverage the VPC launch wizard to rapidly configure two VPCs along with their necessary components.

Step 2 - Create a Peering Connection

I am setting up a VPC Peering Connection, a component that directly links two VPCs, allowing seamless communication between them.

Step 3 - Update Route Tables

We are updating the route tables for VPC 1 and VPC 2 to route traffic through the established peering connection, ensuring seamless communication between the two networks.

Step 4 - Launch EC2 Instances

We are launching an EC2 instance in each VPC (VPC 1 and VPC 2) to facilitate direct connections for testing the VPC peering connection later on.

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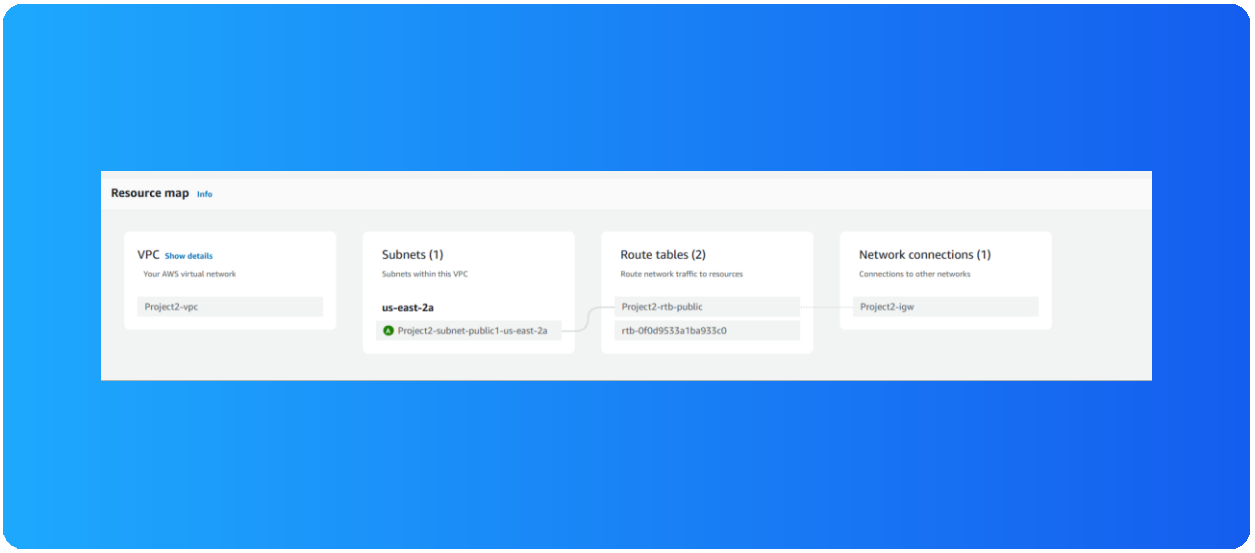
Multi-VPC Architecture

To start my project, I launched two VPCs, each with a unique CIDR block and a public subnet, setting up a foundational network structure.

The CIDR blocks for VPC 1 and VPC 2 are 10.0.0.0/16 and 10.1.0.0/16. These blocks must be unique to enable VPC peering, as route tables require distinct address ranges for routing traffic between VPCs effectively.

I also launched 2 EC2 instances

I chose not to set up key pairs to simplify the instance access process, allowing for easier management and connection without the need for SSH keys.



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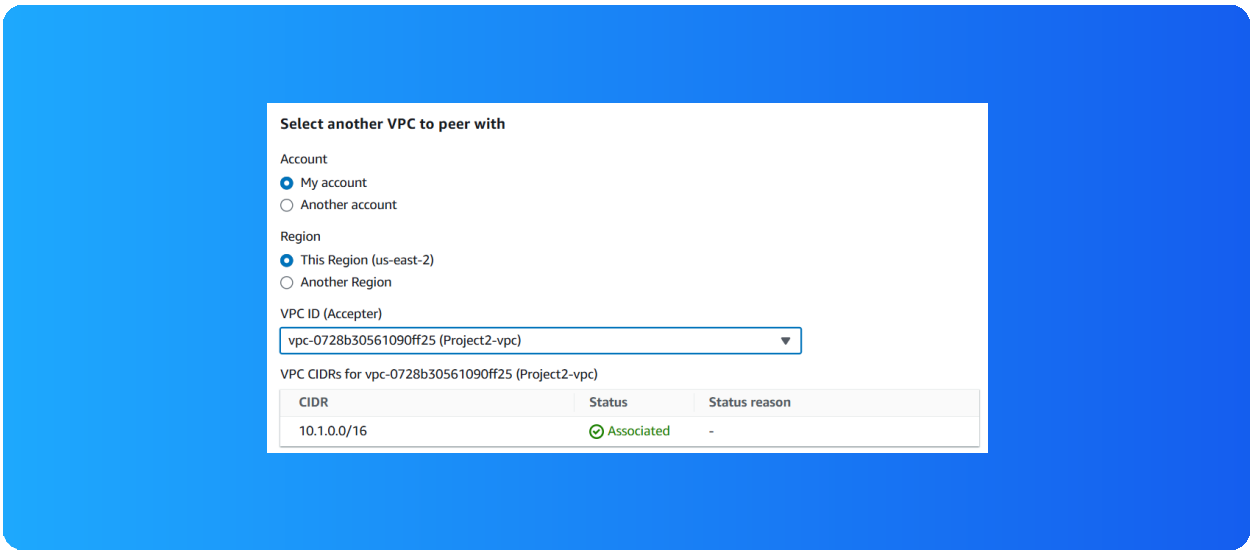
VPC Peering

A VPC peering connection allows two Virtual Private Clouds (VPCs) to connect directly for secure communication and resource sharing, requiring unique CIDR blocks for effective routing.

Peering connections enable secure, direct communication between Virtual Private Clouds (VPCs), allowing for efficient resource sharing and collaboration without using the public internet.

In a VPC peering connection, the Requester is the VPC that initiates the peering request, seeking to establish a direct connection with another VPC. The Accepter is the VPC that receives and approves this request, thereby forming the connection.



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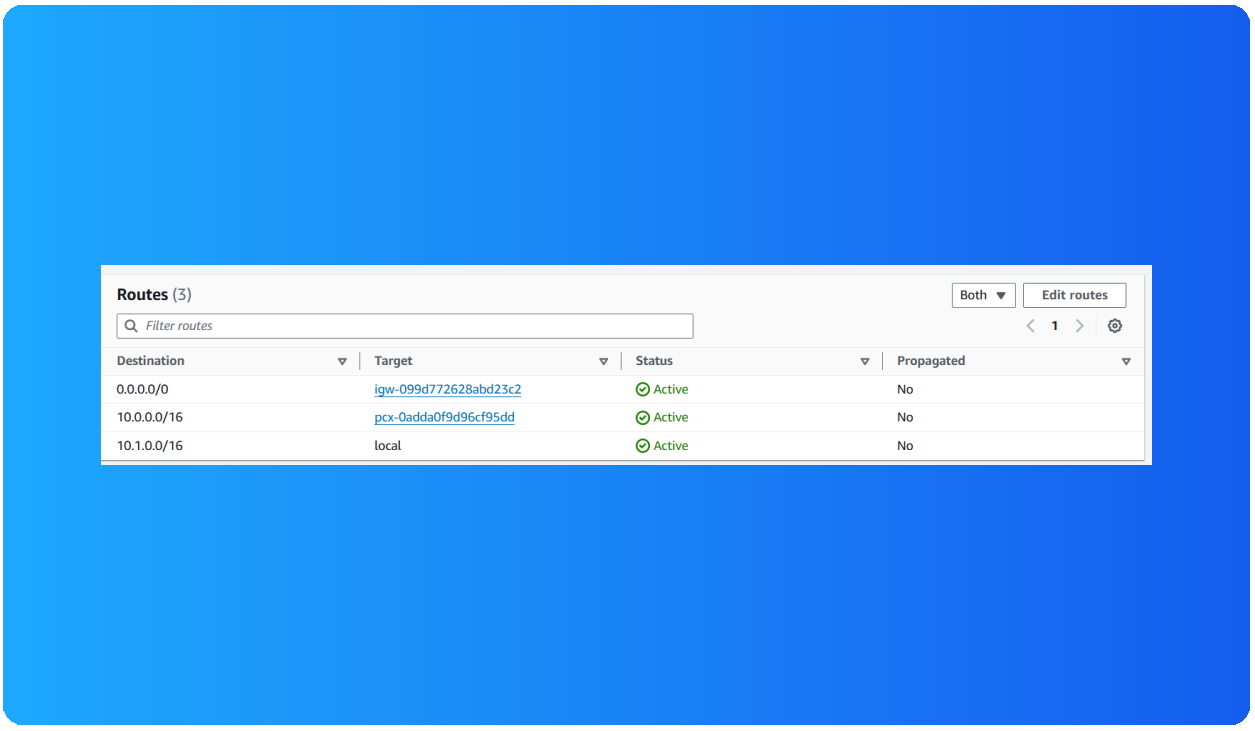
Updating route tables

I added a new route to the VPCs' route tables to enable traffic to flow between the peered VPCs. This routing update ensures that instances in one VPC can communicate with instances in the other VPC by directing the traffic.

The new route added to the VPCs' route tables directs traffic destined for the CIDR block of the peered VPC through the VPC peering connection.



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In the second part of my project...

Step 5 - Use EC2 Instance Connect

I am using EC2 Instance Connect to directly access our first EC2 instance for connectivity tests to validate our VPC peering setup later in the project, ensuring seamless communication between the VPCs.

Step 6 - Connect to EC2 Instance 1

I am reattempting our connection to Instance - Project1 VPC, and resolving error preventing me from using EC2 Instance Connect to directly connect with the instance.

Step 7 - Test VPC Peering

I am going to use Instance Project VPC 1 to attempt a direct connection with Instance Project VPC 2 so that we can validate that our peering connection is set up properly.

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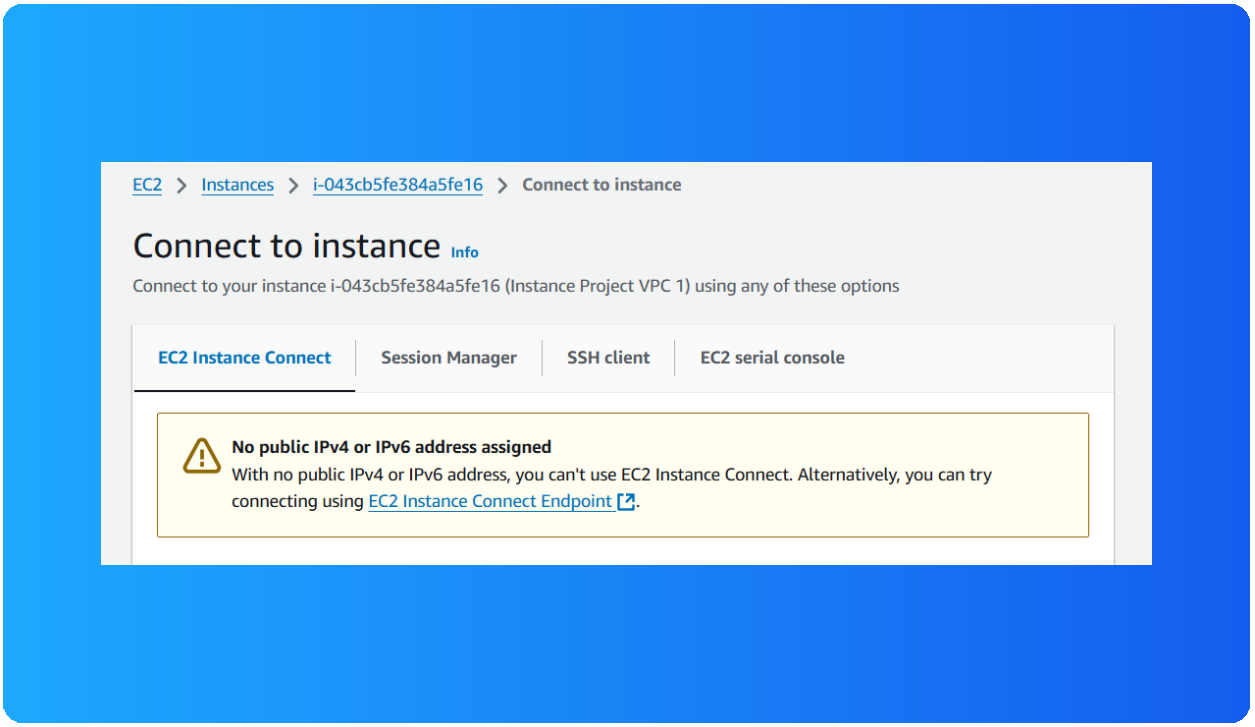
Troubleshooting Instance Connect

Next, I used EC2 Instance Connect to directly connect with Instance - Project1 - vpc just by using the AWS Management Console.

I was stopped from using EC2 Instance Connect as our insatnce did not have a public IPv4 address. In order for EC2 Insatance Connect to work, the EC2 insatnce must have a public IPv4 address and be in a public subnet.



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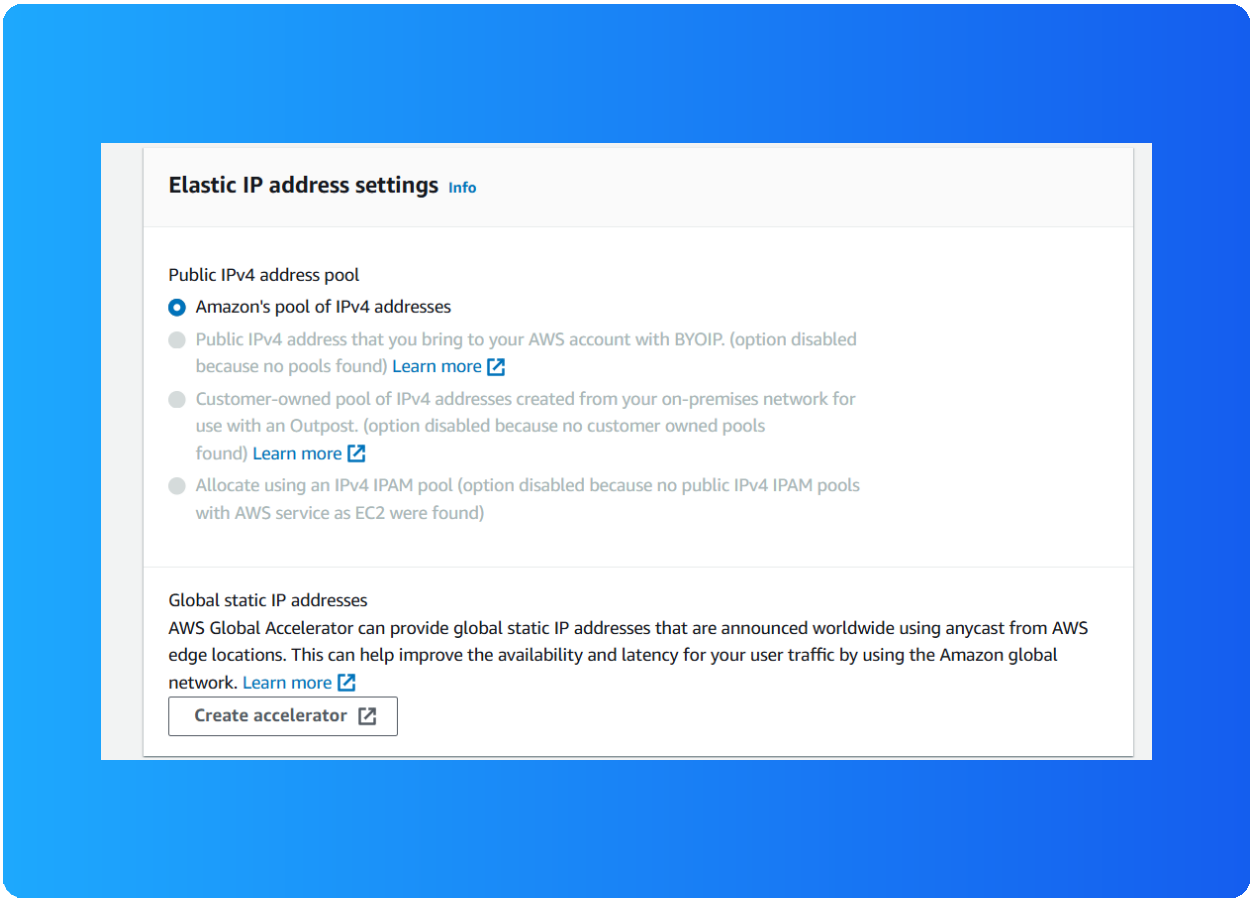
Elastic IP addresses

To resolve this error, I set up Elastic IP addresses. Elastic IP addresses are static public IPv4 addresses that we can request for AWS account, and then delegate to specific resources.

Associating an Elastic IP address resolved the error because it gives our EC2 instance a public IP address, fulfilling the requirments for Instance Connect to work!



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Troubleshooting ping issues

To test VPC peering, I ran the command Ping 10.0.x.x i.e. the private IPv4 address of the other EC2 insatance in VPC 2.

A successful ping test would validate my VPC peering connection because this ping test would not get any replies from the other EC2 instance if the peering connection did not successfully connect our two VPCs.

I had to update my second EC2 instance's security group because it was not letting in ICMP traffic - which is the traffic type of a ping message. I added a new rule that allows ICMP traffic coming in from any resource in VPC 2.