



KUBECON EUROPE 2025

Cedar Access Control For Kubernetes

Simplify security with powerful, flexible policies.

Micah Hausler

Principal Kubernetes Software Engineer

Rodrigo Bersa

Sr. WW Containers Specialist SA

What is Cedar for K8s?

SINGLE POLICY LANGUAGE FOR KUBERNETES AUTHORIZATION AND ADMISSION CONTROL



Unified Policy Language

One language for both
authorization and admission
policies



Dynamic control

Create rules based on user
attributes and request
details



Feature Rich

Supports label-based access,
conditions, denial policies



© 2025, Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates. All rights reserved.

The Current Challenge

Multiple Languages
Admins must learn different
policy languages

Risk of Gaps
Hard to see complete picture
during reviews

Fragmented Security
Permits in one file,
restrictions in another

Cognitive Overhead
Difficult to reason about
overall security posture



Cedar's Solution

UNIFIED SECURITY POLICY

1

Single Policy File

Both permissions and restrictions in one place

2

Clear Reasoning

Easily understand what's allowed and what's restricted

3

Fleet Management

Apply policies across multiple clusters

4

Powerful Controls

Reference requesters, attributes, and add conditions



© 2025, Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates. All rights reserved.

Cedar and Kubernetes RBAC

RBAC

Built-in framework

Allow-only policies

Resource-focused access

Limited conditions

Cedar

Flexible policy language

Allow and deny policies

Requester-attribute based

Full request evaluation



Demo time!



© 2025, Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates. All rights reserved.

Cedar Authorization Policy



© 2025, Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates. All rights reserved.

→ cedar-access-control-for-k8s git:(main) × []

Cedar Impersonation Policy



© 2025, Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates. All rights reserved.

```
→ cedar-access-control-for-k8s git:(main) × []
```

Cedar Admission Policy



© 2025, Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates. All rights reserved.

```
→ cedar-access-control-for-k8s git:(main) × []
```

Get involved



Current Status

Active development, not yet production-ready
github.com/awslabs/cedar-access-control-for-k8s



Community

Join [#cedar-for-k8s](#) Slack channel



© 2025, Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates. All rights reserved.



Thank you!

Micah Hausler

mhausler@amazon.com

[linkedin.com/in/micahhausler](https://www.linkedin.com/in/micahhausler)

Rodrigo Bersa

bersr@amazon.com

[linkedin.com/in/bersa/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/bersa/)