TP3 – Systems Security - IPsec -

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The purpose of this TP is to set up IPsec between multiple computers with different configs, using the Charon daemon (under strongswan) implementing IKEv2.

1 Authentication based on preshared key (PSK)

Exercise 1

In order to set up the virtual network, we will use LXD as a virtualization environment. Creating 2 "routers" from the Ubuntu;20.04 image, connected by default to the lxdbr0 interface (with internet access) we start by downloading the necessary packages – strongswan and strongswan-pki.

We configure some network bridges to establish the links between the different networks.

```
lxc network create br12 ipv4.address=none ipv6.address=none lxc network create br1 ipv4.address=none ipv6.address=none lxc network create br2 ipv4.address=none ipv6.address=none lxc network create br2 ipv4.address=none ipv6.address=none ipv6.address=none # plug devices to R1 lxc config device add R1 eth0 nic nictype=bridged parent=br1 lxc config device add R1 eth1 nic nictype=bridged parent=br12 # plug devices to R2 lxc config device add R2 eth0 nic nictype=bridged parent=br2 lxc config device add R2 eth1 nic nictype=bridged parent=br12
```

The containers use netplan for networking – for our network configuration, we have to push 2 yaml files where we assign static IP addresses and define the routes needed for communication between the 2 subnets. Finally, we enable IP packets forwarding on the containers for the ability to transfer packets between their connected interfaces.

```
lxc file push "$(p
lxc exec $cont
lxc exec $cont
                 netplan apply
                                        rd=1" >> /etc/sysctl.conf
                 sysctl -p /etc/sysctl.conf
lxc exec $cont
renderer: networkd
                                                         renderer: networkd
    dhcp4: no
                                                             dhcp6: no
    dhcp6 no
        192.168.1.1/24
                                                                 192.168.2.1/24
                                                             dhcp4: no
    dhcp4: no
    dhcp6: no
                                                             dhcp6 no
        10.0.0.1/30
                                                                 10.0.0.2/30
                                                                 to: 192.168.1.0/24
         to: 192.168.2.0/24
         via: 10.0.0.2
                                                                 via: 10.0.0.1
     R1 netplan config
                                                              R2 netplan config
```

We can now move on to configuring IPsec. We start by creating a random key of 256 bits:

```
$ xxd -1 32 -p /dev/random | tr -d "\n"; echo
```

This is used as a preshared key (PSK) by a sender to a receiver, on both ends:

```
src_ip dst_ip : PSK "[...]"
```

```
root@R1:~# cat /etc/ipsec.secrets
# This file holds shared secrets or RSA private keys for authentication.

# RSA private key for this host, authenticating it to any other host
# which knows the public part.

192.168.1.1 192.168.2.1 : PSK "97a7c4ca924ab8642c1d8e94395752e2982ed0a6ffef2d71560f0208b061a3ed"

root@R2:~# cat /etc/ipsec.secrets
# This file holds shared secrets or RSA private keys for authentication.

# RSA private key for this host, authenticating it to any other host
# which knows the public part.

192.168.2.1 192.168.1.1 : PSK "97a7c4ca924ab8642c1d8e94395752e2982ed0a6ffef2d71560f0208b061a3ed"
```

And continue by configuring IPsec:

```
conn %default
ikelifetime=60m
keylife=20m
rekeymargin=3m
keyingtries=1
keyexchange=ikev2
mobike=no
conn IKEv2-PSK
authby=psk
left=192.168.1.1
right=192.168.2.1
auto=start
```

R1 ipsec.conf

```
3 conn %default
4 ikelifetime=60m
5 keylife=20m
6 rekeymargin=3m
7 keyingtries=1
8 keyexchange=ikev2
9 mobike=no
0 conn IKEv2-PSK
1 authby=psk
2 left=192.168.2.1
3 right=192.168.1.1
4 auto=start
```

R2 ipsec.conf

- \$ conn %default store default values used in all connections
 - ikelifetime life duration of the keying channel of a connection (ISAKMP SA); after 60 minutes, a new key is regenerated; This represents the IKE Phase 1 (ISAKMP) life time which should be greater than the IKE Phase 2 (IPSec) life time.
 - keylife, or "lifetime", or "salifetime" how long a particular SA of a connection should last, from successful negotiation to expiry
 - rekeymargin the period before the end of the lifetime during which a new key will be negotiated. Here the key will be renegotiated 3m before its expiration.
 - keyingtries the number of attempts allowed to establish a connection
 - keyexchange the key exchange protocol
 - mobike sets the ability to manage IP changes without interruptions in the connection
- \$ conn IKEv2-PSK configure block for a IPsec connection between 2 specified hosts, using a PSK
 - authby authentication method
 - left local IP address
 - right the other IP address
 - auto=strat specify that the connection must be automatically initiated when strongswan starts

To launch a network capture on R1:

\$ tcpdump -i eth1 udp port 500 or udp port 4500 or esp -w
capture.pcap &

Then start ipsec on both containers:

```
$ ipsec start --nofork --debug-all
```

```
15[NET] received packet: from 192.168.2.1[500] to 192.168.1.1[500] (208 bytes)
15[ENC] parsed IKE_AUTH response 1 [ IDr AUTH SA TSi TSr N(AUTH_LFT) ]
15[IKE] authentication of '192.168.2.1' with pre-shared key successful
15[IKE] IKE_SA IKEV2-PSK[1] established between 192.168.1.1[192.168.1.1]...192.168.2.1[192.168.2.1]
15[IKE] scheduling reauthentication in 3402s
15[IKE] maximum IKE_SA lifetime 3582s
15[CFG] selected proposal: ESP:AES_CBC_128/HMAC_SHA2_256_128/NO_EXT_SEQ
15[IKE] CHILD_SA IKEV2-PSK{2} established with SPIs c3cea8df_i c21627c6_o and TS 192.168.1.1/32 =
== 192.168.2.1/32
15[IKE] received AUTH_LIFETIME of 3361s, scheduling reauthentication in 3181s
```

After doing a ping from R1 to R2, we stop and pull the capture to analyze it in Wireshark.

\$ sudo lxc file pull R1/root/capture.pcap capture.pcap

Source	Destination	Protocol Le	ength Info
192.168.1.1	192.168.2.1	ISAKMP	978 IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Initiator Request
192.168.1.1	192.168.2.1	ISAKMP	978 IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Initiator Request
192.168.2.1	192.168.1.1	ISAKMP	978 IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Initiator Request
192.168.1.1	192.168.2.1	ISAKMP	322 IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Responder Response
192.168.2.1	192.168.1.1	ISAKMP	346 IKE_AUTH MID=01 Initiator Request
192.168.1.1	192.168.2.1	ISAKMP	250 IKE_AUTH MID=01 Responder Response
192.168.1.1	192.168.2.1	ISAKMP	978 IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Initiator Request
192.168.2.1	192.168.1.1	ISAKMP	322 IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Responder Response
192.168.1.1	192.168.2.1	ISAKMP	330 IKE_AUTH MID=01 Initiator Request
192.168.2.1	192.168.1.1	ISAKMP	250 IKE_AUTH MID=01 Responder Response
192.168.2.1	192.168.1.1	ISAKMP	122 INFORMATIONAL MID=02 Initiator Request
192.168.1.1	192.168.2.1	ISAKMP	122 INFORMATIONAL MID=02 Responder Response
192.168.1.1	192.168.2.1	ESP	170 ESP (SPI=0xc21627c6)
192.168.2.1	192.168.1.1	ESP	170 ESP (SPI=0xc3cea8df)
192.168.1.1	192.168.2.1	ESP	170 ESP (SPI=0xc21627c6)
192.168.2.1	192.168.1.1	ESP	170 ESP (SPI=0xc3cea8df)
192.168.1.1	192.168.2.1	ESP	170 ESP (SPI=0xc21627c6)
192.168.2.1	192.168.1.1	ESP	170 ESP (SPI=0xc3cea8df)
192.168.1.1	192.168.2.1	ESP	170 ESP (SPI=0xc21627c6)
192.168.2.1	192.168.1.1	ESP	170 ESP (SPI=0xc3cea8df)

IKE_SA_INIT in the Phase-1 of IKEv2 – the cryptographic parameters and keys are negociated. IKE_AUTH is the Phase-2, R1 and R2 authenticated eachother and the SAs have been negociated for the Encapsulating Security Payload protocol (ESP).

Next, we see an ESP packet exchange. The data is encrypted and encapsulated by the IPsec protocol. The two different SPIs are used to identify an SA and make it possible to differentiate the encrypted flows for each direction.

Thanks to the presence of ESP packets, we can confirm that the IPsec link is activated and that the data is transmitted securely between the two routers.

Each ESP packet contains a unique sequence number that is incremented for each packet sent in the same SA. If a packet with the same number is already received or not in the right order, it is discarded (a security feature). The sequence number helps identify and reassemble packets in the right order at the destination. If packets arrive out of order, the IPsec stack uses the sequence numbers to put the packets back in order before forwarding them to the upper layer (similar to TCP). In addition, the sequence number is included in the HMAC calculation, which ensures data integrity.

Below are captures of the ipsec debug messages. We can see that R1 generates an IKE_SA_INIT message to initiate the negotiation with R1. It includes the security parameters (SA), the public key (KE), and other extensions.

```
05[CFG] added configuration 'IKEv2-PSK'
08[CFG] received stroke: initiate 'IKEv2-PSK'
08[IKE] initiating IKE_SA IKEv2-PSK[1] to 192.168.2.1
08[ENC] generating IKE_SA_INIT request 0 [ SA KE No N(NATD_S_IP) N(NATD_D_IP) N(FRAG_SUP) N(HASH_ALG) N(REDIR_SUP) ]
08[NET] sending packet: from 192.168.1.1[500] to 192.168.2.1[500] (936 bytes)
```

Next, R2 accepted the negocation with the corresponding parameters.

```
08[NET] sending packet: from 192.168.1.1[500] to 192.168.2.1[500] (936 bytes)
09[NET] received packet: from 192.168.2.1[500] to 192.168.1.1[500] (280 bytes)
09[ENC] parsed IKE_SA_INIT response 0 [ SA KE No N(NATD_S_IP) N(NATD_D_IP) N(FRAG_SUP) N(HASH_ALG
) N(CHDLESS_SUP) N(MULT_AUTH) ]
09[CFG] selected proposal: IKE:AES_CBC_128/HMAC_SHA2_256_128/PRF_AES128_XCBC/ECP_256
```

Then R1 sends an IKE_AUTH to authenticate himself to R2 – so, the PSK proves our identity and the address range for the tunnel.

```
09[IKE] authentication of '192.168.1.1' (myself) with pre-shared key
09[IKE] establishing CHILD_SA IKEv2-PSK{1}
09[ENC] generating IKE_AUTH request 1 [ IDi N(INIT_CONTACT) IDr AUTH SA TSi TSr N(MULT_AUTH) N(EA
P_ONLY) N(MSG_ID_SYN_SUP) ]
09[NET] sending packet: from 192.168.1.1[500] to 192.168.2.1[500] (304 bytes)
```

Here we see that in response, R2 also authenticates to R1, who confirms it.

```
O9[NET] sending packet: from 192.168.1.1[500] to 192.168.2.1[500] (304 bytes)
10[NET] received packet: from 192.168.2.1[500] to 192.168.1.1[500] (208 bytes)
10[ENC] parsed IKE_AUTH response 1 [ IDr AUTH SA TSI TSr N(AUTH_LFT) ]
10[IKE] authentication of '192.168.2.1' with pre-shared key successful
10[IKE] IKE_SA IKEv2-PSK[1] established between 192.168.1.1[192.168.1.1]...192.168.2.1[192.168.2.1]
10[IKE] scheduling reauthentication in 3335s
```

```
The CHILD_SA, used to encrypt traffic through ESP, was established for the inbound traffic to R1 10[CFG] selected proposal: ESP:AES_CBC_128/HMAC_SHA2_256_128/NO_EXT_SEQ 10[IKE] CHILD_SA IKEV2-PSK{1} established with SPIs ce1472cd_i c340bafa_o and TS 192.168.1.1/32 = 192.168.2.1/32 10[IKE] received AUTH LIFETIME of 3406s, scheduling reauthentication in 3226s
```

A CHILD_SA has been successfully established to handle encrypted traffic between the two peers. This is the 2nd CHILD_SA created for this connection. The SPIs of the old SA are no longer valid and will be deleted once the new tunnel is active.

```
15[CFG] selected proposal: ESP:AES_CBC_128/HMAC_SHA2_256_128/NO_EXT_SEQ
15[IKE] CHILD_SA IKEv2-PSK{2} established with SPIs c6b3d571_i ca8dce99_o and TS 192.168.1.1/32 =
== 192.168.2.1/32
```

Exercise 2.

```
Troot@R1:-# ipsec statusall

Status of IKE charon daemon (strongSwan 5.8.2, Linux 6.8.0-52-generic, x86_64):

uptime: 19 minutes, since Feb 12 16:28:31 2025

malloc: sbrk 2744320, mmap 0, used 668016, free 2076304

worker threads: 11 of 16 idle, 5/0/0/0 working, job queue: 0/0/0/0, scheduled: 5

loaded plugins: charon aesni aes rc2 sha2 sha1 md5 mgf1 random nonce x509 revocation constraint
spubkey pkcs1 pkcs7 pkcs8 pkcs12 pgp dnskey sshkey pem openssl fips-prf gmp agent xcbc hmac gcm
drbg attr kernel-netlink resolve socket-default connmark stroke updown eap-mschapv2 xauth-generic
counters

Listening IP addresses:
192.168.1.1
10.0.1

Connections:

IKEV2-PSK: 192.168.1.1...192.168.2.1 IKEv2

IKEV2-PSK: local: [192.168.1.1] uses pre-shared key authentication

IKEV2-PSK: child: dynamic === dynamic TUNNEL

Security Associations (1 up, 0 connecting):

IKEV2-PSK[2]: ESTABLISHED 19 minutes ago, 192.168.1.1[192.168.1.1]...192.168.2.1[192.168.2.1]

IKEV2-PSK[2]: IKEV2 SPIs: 7b90cd287f70c613_i 5f978542b6d3cabc_r*, pre-shared key reauthenticat
ion in 36 minutes

IKEV2-PSK[2]: IKE proposal: AES_CBC_128/HMAC_SHA2_256_128/PRF_AES128_XCBC/ECP_256

IKEV2-PSK[3]: INSTALLED, TUNNEL, reqid 1, ESP SPIs: c8df9e28_i c19fd452_0

IKEV2-PSK[3]: AES_CBC_128/HMAC_SHA2_256_128, 0 bytes_i, 0 bytes_o, rekeying in 9 minutes

IKEV2-PSK[3]: 192.168.1.1/32 === 192.168.2.1/32
```

	IKE	ESP	
Encryption	AES_CBC_128	Enamentian	AEC CDC 139
Hash	HMAC_SHA2_256_128	Encryption AES_CBC_128	
PRF	PRF_AES128_XCBC	A414:4:	HMAC SHA2 256 128
Key exchange	ECP_256 (elliptic curve DH)	Authentication HMAC_SHA2_256_1	

Tunnel mode is used – the entire IP packet is encapsulated and encrypted.

INSTALLED, TUNNEL, regid 1, ESP SPIs: [...]

```
List of registered IKE algorithms:

encryption: AES_CBC[aesni] AES_ECB[aesni] AES_CTR[aesni] RC2_CBC[rc2] 3DES_CBC[openssl] CAMELLIA_CBC[openssl] CAST_CBC[copenssl] BLOWFISH_CBC[openssl] DES_CBC[openssl] DES_CBC[openssl] NULL[openssl] integrity: AES_XCBC_96[aesni] AES_CMAC_96[aesni] HMAC_MD5_96[openssl] HMAC_MD5_12E[openssl] HMAC_SHA1_128[openssl] HMAC_SHA1_160[openssl] HMAC_SHA2_256_128[openssl] HMAC_SHA1_128[openssl] HMAC_SHA2_384_384[openssl] HMAC_SHA2_256_256_0penssl] HMAC_SHA2_384_384[openssl] HMAC_SHA2_256_0penssl] HMAC_SHA2_384_384[openssl] HMAC_SHA2_512_256[openssl] HMAC_SHA2_512_512[openssl] CAMELLIA_XCBC_96[xcbc]

aead: AES_CCM_8[aesni] AES_CCM_12[aesni] AES_CCM_16[aesni] AES_GCM_8[aesni] AES_GCM_12[aesni] AES_GCM_16[aesni]

CHACHA20_POLY1305[openssl]

hasher: HASH_SHA1[sha1] HASH_SHA2_224[sha2] HASH_SHA2_256[sha2] HASH_SHA2_384[sha2] HASH_SHA2_512[sha2]

HASH_MD5[md5] HASH_MD4[openssl] HASH_IDENTITY[openssl]

prf: PRF_AES128_XCBC[aesni] PRF_HABA_SHA2_256[openssl] PRF_HEVEN_SHA1[sha1] PRF_HMAC_MD5[openssl]

prF: PRF_AES128_XCBC[aesni] PRF_HABA_SHA2_256[openssl] PRF_HMAC_SHA2_512[openssl]

prF: PRF_FIPS_SHA1_160[fips-prf] PRF_CAMELLIA128_XCBC(xcbc]

xof: XOF_MGF1_SHA512[mgf1]

drbg: DRBG_CTR_AES128[drbg] DRBG_CTR_AES128[drbg] DRBG_CTR_AES256[mgf1] XOF_MGF1_SHA384[mgf1]

xOF_MGF1_SHA512[mgf1]

drbg: DRBG_CTR_AES128[drbg] DRBG_CTR_AES326[drbg] DRBG_HMAC_SHA512[drbg]

DRBG_HMAC_SHA256[drbg] DRBG_HMAC_SHA384[drbg] DRBG_HMAC_SHA512[drbg]

DRBG_HMAC_SHA256[dr
```

In ipsec.conf, in both containers, we will add the following to the conn IKEV2-PSK category: ike=aes256ctr-sha2_512-modp3072 esp=aes256ctr-sha2_256

Which sets for the key exchange phase AES-256-CTR for encryption, SHA-512 for integrity and MODP-3072 for DH. In the next phase, for ESP, encryption is assured through AES-256-CTR and integrity through SHA-256.

```
root@R1:~# ipsec statusall
Status of IKE charon daemon (strongSwan 5.8.2, Linux 6.8.0-52-generic, x86_64):
    uptime: 84 seconds, since Feb 12 17:10:41 2025
    malloc: sbrk 2744320, mmap 0, used 658784, free 2085536
    worker threads: 10 of 16 idle, 6/0/0/0 working, job queue: 0/0/0/0, scheduled: 5
    loaded plugins: charon aesni aes rc2 sha2 sha1 md5 mgf1 random nonce x509 revocation constraints pubkey pkcs1 pkcs7
    pkcs8 pkcs12 ppg dnskey sshkey pem openssl fips-prf gmp agent xcbc hmac gcm drbg attr kernel-netlink resolve socket-de
    fault connmark stroke updown eap-mschapv2 xauth-generic counters
    Listening IP addresses:
    192.168.1.1
    10.0.0.1
Connections:
    IKEv2-PSK: 192.168.1.1...192.168.2.1 IKEv2
    IKEv2-PSK: local: [192.168.1.1] uses pre-shared key authentication
    IKEv2-PSK: remote: [192.168.2.1] uses pre-shared key authentication
    IKEv2-PSK: child: dynamic === dynamic TUNNEL
Security Associations (1 up, 0 connecting):
    IKEv2-PSK[2]: ESTABLISHED 78 seconds ago, 192.168.1.1[192.168.1.1]...192.168.2.1[192.168.2.1]
    IKEv2-PSK[2]: IKEv2 SPIs: d2dbab3605b8458c_i c2292b8193ac39b2_r*, pre-shared key reauthentication in 52 minutes
    IKEv2-PSK[2]: IKE proposal: AES_CTR_256/HMAC_SHA2_512_256/PRF_HMAC_SHA2_512/MODP_3072
    IKEv2-PSK[2]: INSTALLED, TUNNEL, reqid 1, ESP SPIs: c41f1d3b_i c34e7adb_0
    IKEv2-PSK[2]: AES_CTR_256/HMAC_SHA2_256_128, 168 bytes_i (2 pkts, 49s ago), 168 bytes_o (2 pkts, 49s ago), rekeyin
    gin 13 minutes
    IKEv2-PSK[2]: 192.168.1.1/32 === 192.168.2.1/32
```

We can switch from ESP to Authentication Header AH mode, where only integrity and authenticity are checked – data is not encrypted. So, in ipsec.conf:

```
conn IKEv2-PSK
   authby=psk
   left=192.168.2.1
   right=192.168.1.1
   auto=start
   ike=aes256ctr-sha2_512-modp3072
# esp=aes256ctr-sha2_256
   ah=sha2_256
```

If we start monitoring capture, restart the connections, and ping, we will soon find in the packet capture that the ICMP packets are visible.

```
1 0.000000
                  192.168.2.1
                                   192.168.1.1
                                                         ISAKMP
                                                                   1342 TKE SA INIT MID=00 Initiator Request
 2 4.001780
                  192.168.2.1
                                                         ISAKMP
                                                                   1342 IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Initiator Request
                                   192.168.1.1
 3 5.879707
                  192.168.1.1
                                  192.168.2.1
                                                         ISAKMP
                                                                   1342 IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Initiator Request
 4 5.891868
                  192.168.2.1
                                   192.168.1.1
                                                         ISAKMP
                                                                    642 IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Responder Response
 5 5.900740
                  192.168.1.1
                                  192.168.2.1
                                                         ISAKMP
                                                                    383 IKE_AUTH MID=01 Initiator Request
 6 5.911463
                  192.168.2.1
                                  192.168.1.1
                                                         TSAKMP
                                                                    291 IKE_AUTH MID=01 Responder Response
                                                                   1342 IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Initiator Request
642 IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Responder Response
                  192.168.2.1
                                                         ISAKMP
 7 11.204513
                                  192,168,1,1
 8 11.224611
                  192.168.1.1
                                                         ISAKMP
                                  192.168.2.1
 9 11.233012
                  192.168.2.1
                                  192.168.1.1
                                                         ISAKMP
                                                                    375 IKE_AUTH MID=01 Initiator Request
10 11.234116
                                                         ISAKMP
                                                                    291 IKE_AUTH MID=01 Responder Response
                  192.168.1.1
                                  192.168.2.1
11 21.238537
                  192.168.1.1
                                  192.168.2.1
                                                         TSAKMP
                                                                    123 INFORMATIONAL MID=02 Initiator Request
12 21.241611
                  192,168,2,1
                                   192.168.1.1
                                                         ISAKMP
                                                                    115 INFORMATIONAL MID=02 Responder Response
14 30.311910
                  192.168.2.1
                                                         ICMP
                                                                    146 Echo (ping) reply
                                                                                               id=0x0a6f,
                                                                                                           seg=1/25
                                   192.168.1.1
15 31.322982
                  192.168.1.1
                                  192,168,2,1
                                                         ICMP
                                                                    146 Echo
                                                                              (ping) request
                                                                                               id=0x0a6f,
                                                                                                           seg=2/51
16 31.323255
                  192.168.2.1
                                  192.168.1.1
                                                         ICMP
                                                                     146 Echo
                                                                                               id=0x0a6f,
                                                                              (ping)
                                                                                     reply
                                                                                                           seg=2/51
                                                                                                           seq=3/76
17 32.347090
                  192.168.1.1
                                  192.168.2.1
                                                         ICMP
                                                                    146 Echo
                                                                              (ping) request
                                                                                               id=0x0a6f,
                                                         ICMP
18 32 347264
                  192,168,2,1
                                  192.168.1.1
                                                                    146 Echo
                                                                              (ping) reply
                                                                                               id=0x0a6f,
                                                                                                           sea=3/76
19 33.370730
                                                         ICMP
                                                                              (ping) request
                                                                                               id=0x0a6f,
id=0x0a6f,
                                                                                                           seg=4/10
                  192,168,1,1
                                  192,168,2,1
                                                                    146 Echo
                                                                                                           seq=4/10
20 33.370899
                  192.168.2.1
                                                         ICMP
                                                                    146 Echo
                                   192.168.1.1
                                                                              (ping) reply
                                                                              (ping) request id=0x0a6f,
21 34.395316
                  192.168.1.1
```

Authentication is done by AH - an extra header. Below is the content of the packet highlighted above, from R1 to R2; here we can identify the SPI and see that it coincides with R2's inbound SPI; same applies for the rest.

```
Frame 13: 146 bytes on wire (1168 bits), 146 bytes captured (1168 bits)
Ethernet II, Src: Xensource_24:6a:fa (00:16:3e:24:6a:fa), Dst: Xensour
Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.1.1, Dst: 192.168.2.1

Authentication Header
Next header: IPIP (4)
Length: 5 (28 bytes)
Reserved: 0000
AH SPI: 0xc478cd8a
AH Sequence: 1
AH ICV: 3f8ba78c5875bf32ba0ec30474ccf3fa
Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.1.1, Dst: 192.168.2.1
Internet Control Message Protocol
```

```
KE] scheduling reauthentication in 3299s

KE] scheduling reauthentication in 3299s

KE] maximum IKE_SA lifetime 3479s

FG] selected proposal: AH:HMAC_SHA2_256_128/NO_EXT_SEQ

KE] CHILD_SA IKEV2-PSK{2} established with SPIs c478cd8a_i c5be9471_o and TS 192.168.2.1/32 === 192.168.1.1/32

KE] received AUTH_LIFETIME of 3318s, scheduling reauthentication in 3138s

ET] received packet: from 192.168.1.1[500] to 192.168.2.1[500] (81 bytes)
```

We can also see that the protocol in IPv4 is 51, therefore AH.

```
▼ Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.1.1, Dst: 192.168.2.1
    0100 .... = Version: 4
       . 0101 = Header Length: 20 bytes (5)
  Differentiated Services Field: 0x00 (DSCP: CS0, ECN: Not-ECT)
    Total Length: 132
    Identification: 0xf254 (62036)
  ▶ 010. .... = Flags: 0x2, Don't fragment
    ...0 0000 0000 0000 = Fragment Offset: 0
    Time to Live: 64
    Protocol: Authentication Header (51)
    Header Checksum: 0xc39f [validation disabled]
[Header checksum status: Unverified]
    Source Address: 192.168.1.1
    Destination Address: 192.168.2.1
Authentication Header
▶ Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.1.1, Dst: 192.168.2.1
Internet Control Message Protocol
```

AH guarantees that the packet has not been modified in transit, so it includes a cryptographic hash of the IP headers and contents of the packet, but has no encryption.

Exercise 3. We will now add a client to each subnet and configure their network interfaces.

```
lxc config device add C1 eth0 nic nictype=bridged parent=$br
  lxc file push "$(
               -- netplan apply
network:
  version: 2
                                                   version: 2
  renderer: networkd
                                                   renderer: networkd
                                                       dhcp4: no
      dhcp4: no
                                                        dhcp6: no
      dhcp6: no
                                                        addresses:
       addresses:
                                                            192.168.2.10/24
           192.168.1.10/24
                                                        gateway4: 192.168.2.1
       gateway4: 192.168.1.1
                                                           C2 netplan
          C1 netplan
```

```
SNAPSHOTS |
NAME | STATE |
                        IPV4
                                     | IPV6 |
                                                TYPE
C1
       RUNNING | 192.168.1.10 (eth0) |
                                            | CONTAINER | 0
       RUNNING | 192.168.2.10 (eth0) |
C2
                                            | CONTAINER | 0
       RUNNING | 192.168.1.1 (eth0)
R1
                                              CONTAINER | 0
               | 10.0.0.1 (eth1)
R2
       RUNNING | 192.168.2.1 (eth0)
                                            | CONTAINER | 0
               | 10.0.0.2 (eth1)
```

Next, modifications on the routers are needed for their IPsec configs. Previously we simply set the 2 sides, left and right, to the internal IP addresses and the tunneling simply worked – that's because we had IP forwarding enabled. Packets coming from internal subnets are redirected via external interfaces, so strongswan can still establish an IPsec tunnel from these addresses.

So, initially, strongswan used the internal addresses as endpoints for the tunnel. To further isolate IPSEC connections and clarify the role of the interfaces, we modify the configs by putting the IPs of the external interfaces. (10.0.0.x) for left and right, respectively, then defined the corresponding subnets with leftsubnet and rightsubnet (192.168.x.0/24). Next, because we change the endpoints definitions, we need to change/add a new (or reuse the previous) PSK for the external interface IPs.

```
192.168.1.1 192.168.2.1 : PSK
10.0.0.1 10.0.0.2 : PSK
    conn %default
      ikelifetime=60m
                                                  conn %default
                                                    ikelifetime=60m
      keylife=20m
                                                    keylife=20m
      rekeymargin=3m
                                                    rekeymargin=3m
      keyingtries=1
                                                    keyingtries=1
      keyexchange=ikev2
                                                    keyexchange=ikev2
      mobike=no
                                                   mobike=no
    conn IKEv2-PSK
                                                  conn IKEv2-PSK
      authby=psk
                                                    authby=psk
      left=10.0.0.1
                                                    left=10.0.0.2
      leftsubnet=192.168.1.0/24
                                                    leftsubnet=192.168.2.0/24
      right=10.0.0.2
                                                    right=10.0.0.1
      rightsubnet=192.168.2.0/24
                                                    rightsubnet=192.168.1.0/24
      auto=start
                                                    auto=start
      ike=aes256ctr-sha2_512-modp3072
                                                    ike=aes256ctr-sha2_512-modp3072
      esp=aes256ctr-sha2_256
                                                    esp=aes256ctr-sha2_256
                                                             R2 ipsec.conf
                 R1 ipsec.conf
```

If we start a new network capture, creating the tunnel and then pinging C2 from C1 will result in the following:

	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length Info
	10.0.0.2	10.0.0.1	ISAKMP	1342 IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Initiator Request
3	10.0.0.1	10.0.0.2	ISAKMP	1342 IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Initiator Request
j	10.0.0.2	10.0.0.1	ISAKMP	642 IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Responder Response
ļ.	10.0.0.1	10.0.0.2	ISAKMP	431 IKE_AUTH MID=01 Initiator Request
2	10.0.0.2	10.0.0.1	ISAKMP	303 IKE_AUTH MID=01 Responder Response
j	10.0.0.2	10.0.0.1	ISAKMP	1342 IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Initiator Request
)	10.0.0.1	10.0.0.2	ISAKMP	642 IKE_SA_INIT MID=00 Responder Response
3	10.0.0.2	10.0.0.1	ISAKMP	423 IKE_AUTH MID=01 Initiator Request
•	10.0.0.1	10.0.0.2	ISAKMP	303 IKE_AUTH MID=01 Responder Response
17	10.0.0.1	10.0.0.2	ISAKMP	123 INFORMATIONAL MID=02 Initiator Reques
12	10.0.0.2	10.0.0.1	ISAKMP	115 INFORMATIONAL MID=02 Responder Respon
12	10.0.0.1	10.0.0.2	ESP	154 ESP (SPI=0xc2c5c3a8)
10	10.0.0.2	10.0.0.1	ESP	154 ESP (SPI=0xc6314678)
'9	10.0.0.1	10.0.0.2	ESP	154 ESP (SPI=0xc2c5c3a8)
18	10.0.0.2	10.0.0.1	ESP	154 ESP (SPI=0xc6314678)
17	10.0.0.1	10.0.0.2	ESP	154 ESP (SPI=0xc2c5c3a8)
'3	10.0.0.2	10.0.0.1	ESP	154 ESP (SPI=0xc6314678)
12	10.0.0.1	10.0.0.2	ESP	154 ESP (SPI=0xc2c5c3a8)
28	10.0.0.2	10.0.0.1	ESP	154 ESP (SPI=0xc6314678)
16	10.0.0.1	10.0.0.2	ISAKMP	123 INFORMATIONAL MID=00 Responder Reques
.9	10.0.0.2	10.0.0.1	ISAKMP	115 INFORMATIONAL MID=00 Initiator Respon

We only see the IPs of the routers. In fact, the internal headers are encapsulated and encrypted in the ESP. In tunnel mode, the entire packet (IP header + data) is encapsulated and protected in a new packet with a new IP header.

2 Authentication based on certificates

Prerequisites.

Configuration file – **openca.cnf** for creating the root CA:

openca.cnf

Configuration file - **openssl.cnf** for the R1 / R2 certificates (the only difference is the CN, Common Name):

```
I req | |
distinguished_name = req_distinguished_name
x509_extensions = v3_ca
prompt = no

[ req_distinguished_name ]
C = FR
0 = ipsec
CN = 192.168.1.1

[ v3_ca ]
keyUsage = digitalSignature, nonRepudiation, keyEncipherment
basicConstraints = critical, CA:FALSE
subjectKeyIdentifier = hash
authorityKeyIdentifier = keyid, issuer
```

openssl.cnf

The process of enabling certificate authentication consists in reating a root Certificate Authority: a private-public key pair and a self signed x509 certificate for it. We continue by having R1 and R2 each create their own key pair and send us a a certificate signing request (CSR) that the root CA will sign and hand them back their certificates. We didn't go exactly on this route – we are going to be the ones that distribute everything (specifically the private keys).

It's important to mention the paths where IPsec manages the needed files on each host:

- /etc/ipsec.d/private for the private keys
- /etc/ipsec.d/certs for the certificates
- /etc/ipsec.d/cacerts for the root Cas

```
# create root CA
openssl genrsa -out "ca.key" 2048
openssl req -x509 -new -nodes -key "ca.key" -sha256 -days 3650 -config "openca.cnf" -extensions v3_c
a -out "ca.crt"

for i in "${!containers[@]}"; do
    cont=${containers[$i]}
    name=${names[$i]}
# create RSA key pair, make a certificate request and then use the CA to sign it
    openssl genrsa -out "$cont/$name.key" 2048
    openssl req -new -key "$cont/$name.key" -out "$cont/$name.csr" -config "$cont/openssl.cnf"
    openssl x509 -req -in "$cont/$name.csr" -CA ca.crt -CAkey ca.key -CAcreateserial -out "$cont/$name.crt" -days 365 -sha256 -extensions v3_ca -extfile "$cont/openssl.cnf"

# push the needed files to the corresponding host
lxc file push "$(pwd)/$cont/$name.key" "$cont/etc/ipsec.d/private/$name.key"
lxc file push "$(pwd)/$cont/$name.crt" "$cont/etc/ipsec.d/cacrts/$name.crt"
lxc file push "$(pwd)/ca.crt" "$cont/etc/ipsec.d/cacerts/$name.crt"
done
```

Finally, we can modify the /etc/ipsec.secrets on each router to use the private keys:

```
# RSA private key for this host,

# which knows the public part.

# 192.168.1.1 192.168.2.1 : PSK "

# 10.0.0.1 10.0.0.2 : PSK "97a7c4

10.0.0.1 10.0.0.2 : RSA r1.key
```

```
# RSA private key for this host, authenticating
# which knows the public part.
# 192.168.2.1 192.168.1.1 : PSK "97a7c4ca924ab8
# 10.0.0.2 10.0.0.1 : PSK "97a7c4ca924ab8642c1d
10.0.0.2 10.0.0.1 : RSA r2.key
```

As well as modify the ipsec.conf:

```
conn %default
conn %default
                                                ikelifetime=60m
  ikelifetime=60m
                                                keylife=20m
  keylife=20m
                                                rekeymargin=3m
  rekeymargin=3m
                                                keyingtries=1
  keyingtries=1
                                                keyexchange=ikev2
  keyexchange=ikev2
                                                mobike=no
  mobike=no
                                              conn IKEv2-PSK
conn IKEv2-PSK
                                                authby=pubkey
  authby=pubkey
                                                left=10.0.0.2
  left=10.0.0.1
                                                leftsubnet=192.168.2.0/24
  leftsubnet=192.168.1.0/24
  right=10.0.0.2
                                                right=10.0.0.1
                                                rightsubnet=192.168.1.0/24
  rightsubnet=192.168.2.0/24
                                                auto=start
  auto=start
                                                leftid="C=FR, 0=ipsec, CN=192.168.2.1"
rightid="C=FR, 0=ipsec, CN=192.168.2.1"
                                                leftcert=r2.crt
  leftcert=r1.crt
  leftid=
  rightid="
                                                ike=aes256ctr-sha2_512-modp3072
  ike=aes256ctr-sha2_512-modp3072
                                                esp=aes256ctr-sha2_256
  esp=aes256ctr-sha2_256
```

R1 ipsec.conf R2 ipsec.conf

We note the addition of letfcert=.. to specify the certificate used for the router. leftid specifies the identity of the certificate (Country, Organization and Common Name) and the same for rightid, for the one opposite. authby=pubkey means that authentication between peers is done via public keys, provided by the X.509 certificates.

```
05[IKE] received end entity cert "C=FR, O=ipsec, CN=192.168.2.1"
05[CFG] using certificate "C=FR, O=ipsec, CN=192.168.2.1"
05[CFG] using trusted ca certificate "C=FR, O=ipsec, CN=IPsecCA"
05[CFG] reached self-signed root ca with a path length of 0
05[CFG] checking certificate status of "C=FR, O=ipsec, CN=192.168.2.1"
05[CFG] certificate status is not available
05[IKE] authentication of 'C=FR, O=ipsec, CN=192.168.2.1' with RSA_EMSA_PKCS1_SHA2_256 successful
05[IKE] IKE_SA IKEV2-PSK[1] established between 10.0.0.1[C=FR, O=ipsec, CN=192.168.1.1]...10.0.0.2[C=FR, O=ipsec, CN=192.168.2.1]
05[IKE] scheduling reauthentication in 3368s
05[IKE] maximum IKE_SA lifetime 3548s
```

```
$ ipsec statusall
 el-netlink resolve socket-default connmark stroke updown eap-mschapv2 xauth-generic counters
 Listening IP addresses:
   192.168.1.1
   10.0.0.1
 Connections:
                   10.0.0.1...10.0.0.2 IKEv2
    IKEv2-PSK:
                    local: [C=FR, 0=ipsec, CN=192.168.1.1] uses public key authentication cert: "C=FR, 0=ipsec, CN=192.168.1.1"
    IKEv2-PSK:
    IKEV2-PSK:
                    remote: [C=FR, O=ipsec, CN=192.168.2.1] uses public key authentication child: 192.168.1.0/24 === 192.168.2.0/24 TUNNEL
    IKEV2-PSK:
Security Associations (1 up, 0 connecting):

IKEV2-PSK[1]: ESTABLISHED 89 seconds ago, 10.0.0.1[C=FR, 0=ipsec, CN=192.168.1.1]...10.0.0.2[C=FR, 0=ipsec, CN=192.168.2.1]
    IKEv2-PSK:
    IKEv2-PSK[1]: IKEv2 SPIs: 547c223a587579b7_i* ca30ea3446dfaeaf_r, public key reauthentication in 50 m
    IKEV2-PSK[1]: IKE proposal: AES_CTR_256/HMAC_SHA2_512_256/PRF_HMAC_SHA2_512/MODP_3072
    IKEv2-PSK{2}: INSTALLED, TUNNEL, reqid 1, ESP SPIs: c6880121_i c6abe474_o
IKEv2-PSK{2}: AES_CTR_256/HMAC_SHA2_256_128, 0 bytes_i, 0 bytes_o, rekeying in 14 minutes
    IKEv2-PSK{2}:
                        192.168.1.0/24 === 192.168.2.0/24
```

Exercise 4.

Host-to-Net (Roadwarrior, **rw**) connections are being used to connect a host which could be a laptop, smartphone or any other device with an IPsec client to one or more networks. In this exercise we wish to have a "nomad" laptop be able to authenticate upon R1 and access the 2 subnetworks.

```
$ lxc launch ubuntu:20.04 nomad
$ lxc exec nomad -- apt update -y
$ lxc exec nomad -- apt install strongswan strongswan-pki -y
```

Then we will create a new bridge linking the nomad to R1:

```
$ 1xc network create brnomad ipv4.address=none ipv6.address=none
$ 1xc config device add nomad eth0 nic nictype=bridged
parent=brnomad
$ 1xc config device add R1 eth2 nic nictype=bridged parent=bnomad
```

On the brnomad connection:

- Nomad will be at 192.168.3.1
- R1 will be at 192.168.3.2

For this, we will first configure nomad's netplan:

```
1 network:
2 version: 2
3 renderer: networkd
4 ethernets:
5 eth0:
6 dhcp4: no
7 dhcp6: no
8 addresses:
9 - 192.168.3.1/24
routes:
1 - to: 192.168.1.0/24
via: 192.168.3.2
4 via: 192.168.3.2
```

To R1 we add the new eth2 interface and route all traffic for the nomad's network to him.

```
5 routes:
6 - to: 192.168.2.0/24
7 via: 10.0.0.2
8 eth2:
9 dhcp4: no
0 dhcp6: no
1 addresses:
2 - 192.168.3.2
3 routes:
4 - to: 192.168.3.0/24
5 via: 192.168.3.1
```

R2's network config also needs alterations for the eth1 interface to become aware of the new network:

```
1 network:
2 version: 2
3 renderer: networkd
4 ethernets:
5 eth0:
6 dhcp4: no
7 dhcp6: no
8 addresses:
9 - 192.168.2.1/24
9 eth1:
1 dhcp4: no
2 dhcp6: no
3 addresses:
- 10.0.0.2/30
routes:
- to: 192.168.1.0/24
via: 10.0.0.1
- to: 192.168.3.0/24
via: 10.0.0.1
```

Now we can move on to configuring IPsec for the nomad:

```
conn %default
  ikelifetime=60m
  keylife=20m
  rekeymargin=3m
  keyingtries=1
  keyexchange=ikev2
conn rw
  authby=pubkey
  left=192.168.3.1
  right=192.168.3.2
rightsubnet=192.168.1.0/24,192.168.2.0/24
  auto=start
  leftcert=nomad.crt
  leftid=
  rightid=
  ike=aes256ctr-sha2_512-modp3072
  esp=aes256ctr-sha2_25<mark>6</mark>
```

Here, we can see that the rightsubnet includes the subnets of R1 and R2 - because nomad must be able to transfer encrypted packets via the tunnel to both R1 and R2. Since authentication is done with R1, it only needs the distinguished_name of R1's certificate (rightid).

Below we further modify the Ipsec config for R1 - the leftsubnet of rw, in order to add the subnet 192.168.3.0/24 so it becomes accessible via IPsec. The data sent from nomad to R2 is encrypted: this traffic will pass through the tunnel between R1 and R2 and thus will be encrypted.

```
conn %default
 ikelifetime=60m
 keylife=20m
 rekeymargin=3m
 keyingtries=1
 keyexchange=ikev2
 mobike=no
conn rw
 authby=pubkey
 left=10.0.0.1
 leftsubnet=192.168.1.0/24,192.168.3.0/24
 right=10.0.0.2
 rightsubnet=192.168.2.0/24
 auto=start
 leftcert=r1.crt
 leftid=
 rightid=
 ike=aes256ctr-sha2 512-modp3072
 esp=aes256ctr-sha2_256
conn rw_nomad
 authby=pubkey
 left=192.168.3.2
 leftsubnet=192.168.1.0/24,192.168.2.0/24
 right=192.168.3.1
 auto=start
 leftcert=r1.crt
 leftid=
 rightid=
 ike=aes256ctr-sha2_512-modp3072
 esp=aes256ctr-sha2_256
```

We also add a nomad rw connection in order to establish a tunnel between nomad and R1. leftsubnet contains the subnet of R1 and R2 because both must be able to receive encrypted packets from nomad. right is directly the IP address of nomad, leftid and rightid allow authentication between nomad and R1.

For R2 we add the new subnet to rightsubnets:

```
conn %default
  ikelifetime=60m
  keylife=20m
  rekeymargin=3m
 keyingtries=1
  keyexchange=ikev2
  mobike=no
conn rw
  authby=pubkey
  left=10.0.0.2
  leftsubnet=192.168.2.0/24
  right=10.0.0.1
  rightsubnet=192.168.1.0/24,192.168.3.0/24
  auto=start
  leftcert=r2.crt
  leftid=
  rightid=
  ike=aes256ctr-sha2_512-modp3072
 esp=aes256ctr-sha2_256
```

In the same manner as for the routers, we will create and sign a certificate for the nomad – necessary for R1 to authenticate it. Don't forget to push them to the nomad container, to their respective paths managed by IPsec, and then add the key to nomad's secrets.

```
$ openssl genrsa -out nomad/nomad.key 2048
$ openssl req -new -key nomad/nomad.key -out nomad/nomad.csr -config
nomad/openssl.cnf
$ openssl x509 -req -in nomad/nomad.csr -CA ca.crt -CAkey ca.key -
CAcreateserial -out nomad/nomad.crt -days 365 -sha256 -extensions
v3_ca -extfile nomad/openssl.cnf
```

```
1 [ req ]
2 distinguished_name = req_distinguished_name
3 x509_extensions = v3_ca
4 prompt = no
5
6 [ req_distinguished_name ]
7 C = FR
8 O = ipsec
9 CN = nomad
10
11 [ v3_ca ]
12 keyUsage = digitalSignature, nonRepudiation, keyEncipherment
13 basicConstraints = critical, CA:FALSE
14 subjectKeyIdentifier = hash
15 authorityKeyIdentifier = keyid, issuer
```

Nomad openssl.cnf

```
# This file holds shared secrets or RSA private keys for authentication.

# RSA private key for this host, authenticating it to any other host

# which knows the public part.

192.168.3.1 192.168.3.2 : RSA nomad.key
```

Nomad ipsec.secrets