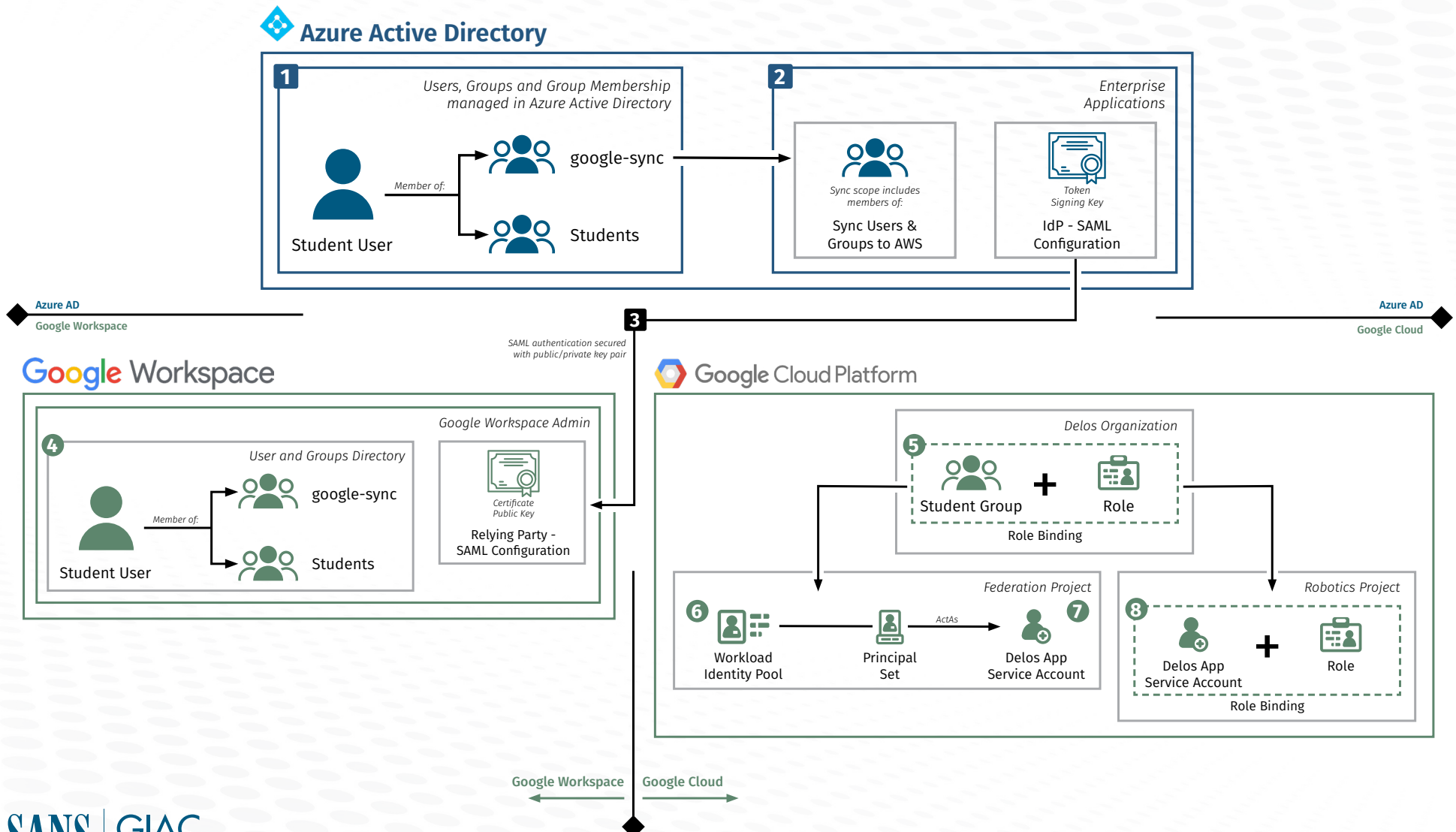


# Azure to GCP Identity Architecture



Created by Kat Traxler and Eric Johnson, co-authors of  
**SEC549: Enterprise Cloud Security Architecture** | [sans.org/sec549](https://sans.org/sec549)



# Azure to GCP Identity Architecture

## DIAGRAM KEY

- 1** User and groups managed within Identity Provider (Azure AD)
- 2** Azure Enterprise Applications used to sync in-scope users and groups to GCP and configure SAML Federation
- 3** SAML tokens signed and secured with private key stored in Azure AD, Public key exported to the Google Workspace Admin Console and used to validate SAML tokens
- 4** In-scope users and groups are replicated to a directory in Google Workspace
- 5** Google Cloud Roles are assigned to the Student User at the Organization Level and the permissions cascade down the hierarchy to all Projects and Resources
- 6** All Workload Identity Pools are created in a dedicated Project in order to confine blast radius and reduce identity sprawl.
- 7** Service Accounts are created within Projects. Where federation is configured, Workload Identity Principal Sets are allowed to 'Act As' Service Accounts.
- 8** Cross-Project Permissions are assigned to Service Accounts though Role Bindings. The confluence of a Principal, a Role and Resource such as a Project constitutes a Role Binding