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# Auth @ CERN

## CSC on IT Services 2024

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*Service Provided by IT-PW-IAM*

# What we'll look at

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- **Authentication**
- **Exercise 0**
- **Exercise 1**
- **Authorisation**
- **Exercise 2**
- **Advanced use - calling an API**
- **Exercise 3**

# Authentication at CERN

CERN Accelerating science Directory

## CERN Single Sign-On

### Sign in with a CERN account


Username


Password

[Sign In](#)

[Forgot Password?](#)



### Sign in with your email or organisation



 Home organisation - eduGAIN

 External email - Guest access


### Sign in with a social account


By clicking on the buttons below, you consent to CERN's transfer of your login request to the social provider and to receive your account name, name and e-mail for authenticating you. See more details in our [Privacy Notice](#).

 Google     LinkedIn

 GitHub     Facebook

### Or use another login method

 Two-factor authentication


 Kerberos

By logging in, you agree to comply with the [CERN Computing Rules](#), in particular OCS. CERN implements the measures necessary to ensure compliance.

[Account](#)    [Privacy](#)    [Support](#)

[Manage your account](#)    [Privacy Notice](#)    [Service Desk - +41 22 76 7777](#)

[Service Status](#)

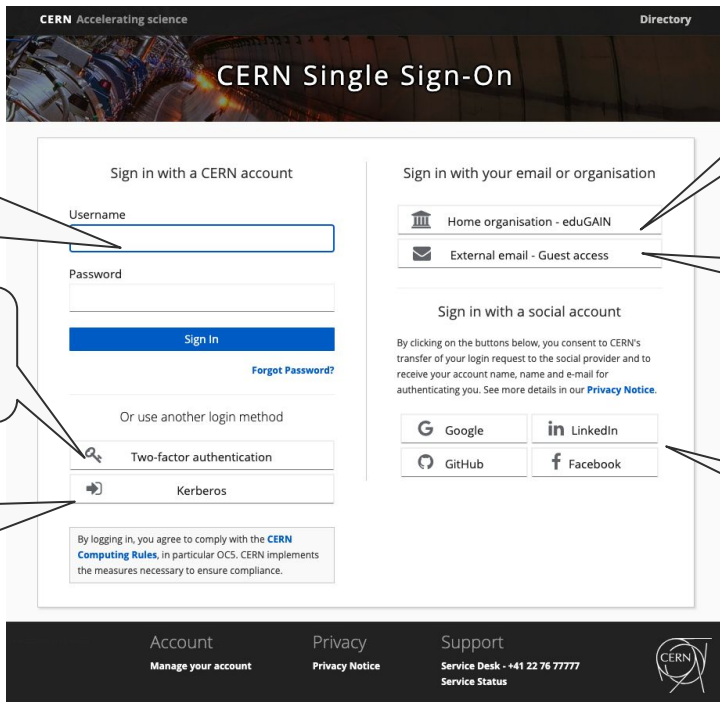


# Authentication at CERN

CERN username & password for an account in **Active Directory**

*Just ignore this... it will disappear once everyone has 2FA for their accounts...*

**Kerberos** with a CERN account in Active Directory

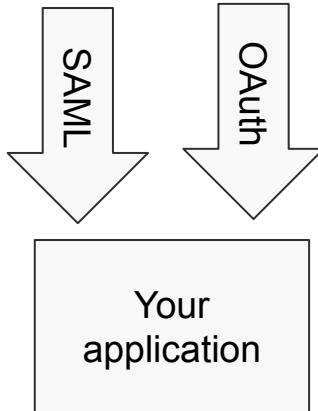
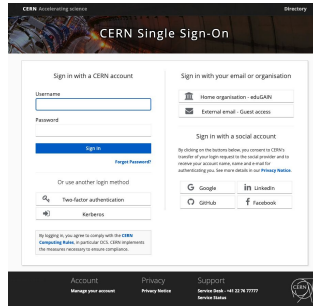


**SAML** connections to eduGAIN

Inbuilt **Keycloak** users

**OAuth** connections to social providers

# Authentication at CERN



# SAML

- Often used for Single-Sign-On implementations & older off the shelf software
- Limited to web services
- Each SAML provider provides public XML metadata that contains
  - Signing and encryption certificates, endpoints, and various other bits
- Authentication assertions sent as XML packets
  - Can be encrypted or not
  - Contain user attributes, can contain authorisation
- CERN Docs:  
<https://auth.docs.cern.ch/user-documentation/saml/saml/>

Q: Which certificates would go into the public metadata?

```
1: <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
2: <env:Envelope xmlns:env="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/">
3:   <env:Body>
4:     <saml:Response
5:       xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol"
6:       xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion"
7:       Version="2.0"
8:       ID="i92f8b5230dc04d73e93095719d191915fdc67d5e"
9:       IssueInstant="2006-07-17T20:31:41Z"
10:      InResponseTo="aaf23196-1773-2113-474a-fell4412ab72" >
11:     <saml:Issuer>http://icp.example.org/saml:Issuer</saml:Issuer>
12:     <saml:Status>
13:       <saml:StatusCode Value="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Success" />
14:     </saml:Status>
15:     ..SAML assertion...
16:   </saml:Response>
17: </env:Body>
18: </env:Envelope>
```

Figure 10: Response in SOAP Envelope

<http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/Post2.0/sstc-saml-tech-overview-2.0.html>



# OAuth & OIDC

Q: Why would client secret be optional?

You can use your client ID and (optional) client secret to request tokens from CERN SSO.

Token	Lifetime at CERN	Use
Access / Bearer	20 minutes	Authorisation to clients
ID	20 minutes (but not applicable)	Snapshot of information about a user/subject
Refresh	12 hours or indefinite if offline_access scope requested	To get more access tokens

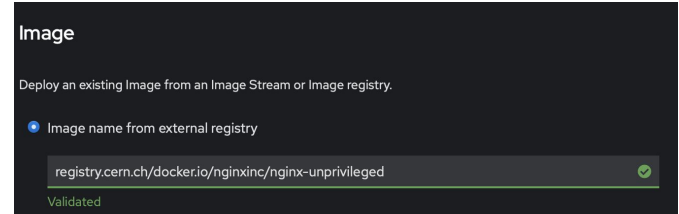




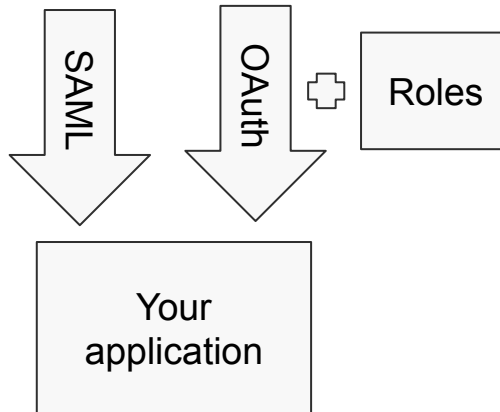
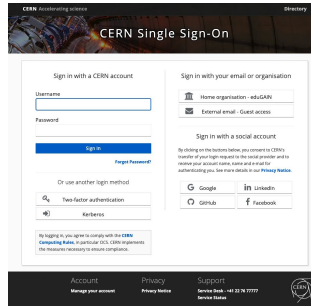
# Exercise 1 - Authentication on Openshift

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- Open an existing Openshift (test) application
- If you don't have one
  - Create a test site at <https://webservices-portal.web.cern.ch/paas> and find it in <https://paas.cern.ch>
  - Make sure you are on “Developer” view rather than “Administrator”
  - +Add -> “Container images” ->  
`registry.cern.ch/docker.io/nginxinc/nginx-unprivileged`
  - It should create a service called “nginx-unprivileged” on port 8080
- Add the SSO Proxy helm chart  
[https://paas.docs.cern.ch/4\\_CERN\\_Authentication/2-deploy-ss-proxy/#deployment-from-openshift-console-web-ui](https://paas.docs.cern.ch/4_CERN_Authentication/2-deploy-ss-proxy/#deployment-from-openshift-console-web-ui)
  - Be careful to specify the correct service and ports for it to connect to, and the route e.g. your-paas-project.web.cern.ch

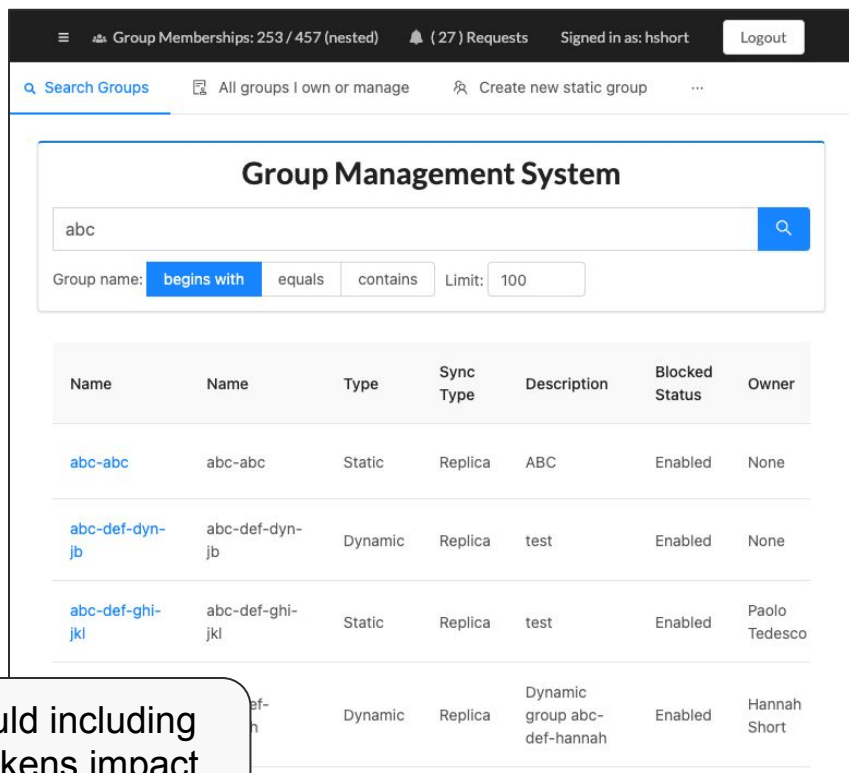


# Authorisation at CERN



# Authorisation at CERN

- Unlike at many organisations, here we can define our own groups!
- Currently egroups, but the future = GMS
- To improve user privacy (and SSO usability) we do not send all groups through SSO tokens. Instead we create roles per application, that can be linked to groups as needed.



The screenshot displays the Group Management System interface. At the top, it shows 'Group Memberships: 253 / 457 (nested)', '(27) Requests', and 'Signed in as: hshort' with a 'Logout' button. Below this is a search bar with 'abc' entered and a search icon. The search criteria are 'Group name: begins with equals contains' and 'Limit: 100'. The results are shown in a table with columns: Name, Name, Type, Sync Type, Description, Blocked Status, and Owner.

Name	Name	Type	Sync Type	Description	Blocked Status	Owner
abc-abc	abc-abc	Static	Replica	ABC	Enabled	None
abc-def-dyn-jb	abc-def-dyn-jb	Dynamic	Replica	test	Enabled	None
abc-def-ghi-jkl	abc-def-ghi-jkl	Static	Replica	test	Enabled	Paolo Tedesco
		Dynamic	Replica	Dynamic group abc-def-hannah	Enabled	Hannah Short

Q: Why would including groups in tokens impact usability?

# Exercise 2 - Authorisation on Openshift

- Find your Openshift application in <https://application-portal.web.cern.ch> (search for “contains” with your Openshift project name)
- Create a static group in <https://groups-portal.web.cern.ch> and add yourself and some colleagues from the school
- In the application portal, “Roles” tab, add a required role that is assigned to your new group (see <https://auth.docs.cern.ch/applications/role-based-permissions/>)
- Share your application with your colleagues and see whether they can access
- Have a look in the pod logs for the proxy in Openshift to see what’s going on

My Applications

test-csc-hshort

Application Identifier: begins with equals contains Limit: 100

Include: Applications that I own or administer All applications

Identifier	Name	Homepage	Owner	Administrators	Actions
webframeworks-paas-...	Web frameworks site L...	https://webservices-p...	Hannah Short		

< 1 > 10 / page

Application: Web frameworks site test-csc-hshort (paas)

Application details SSO Registration Roles Group memberships

Name	Role Identifier	Description	Required?	Multifactor?	Apply to all users?	Actions
Default Allowed Users	default-role	Users must be from CERN or eduGAIN to have access	✓		✓	

+ Add Role

# Don't make Security chase you: make good choices ;)

Rule	Why?	What to do?
No local accounts	Increases security risk. Removes login traceability at CERN wide level	Disable local account options. <b>Use SSO!</b>
Do not extend user sessions	A compromised user would still be able to access your service	Use OAuth refresh tokens. Expire sessions after 12 hours.
Groups are sensitive - treat them as such	Group names can expose confidential information	Use SSO roles to receive authZ data relevant to your service
Keep secrets private	Avoid others impersonating users or services	Use Gitlab/OpenShift variables/secrets, or centrally provided solutions teigi/vault
Use a well supported library	These protocols are complex and you may well miss important security steps if you implement them yourself.	<a href="https://auth.docs.cern.ch/user-documentation/oidc/libraries/">https://auth.docs.cern.ch/user-documentation/oidc/libraries/</a>

# Advanced use - calling a protected API

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- **API Access token endpoint**

<https://auth.docs.cern.ch/user-documentation/oidc/api-access/>

- For calling an API with your client ID and secret, much **like a service account**
- Not OAuth standard token request, this has been developed at CERN
- In real life the downstream API may need to add you to some roles

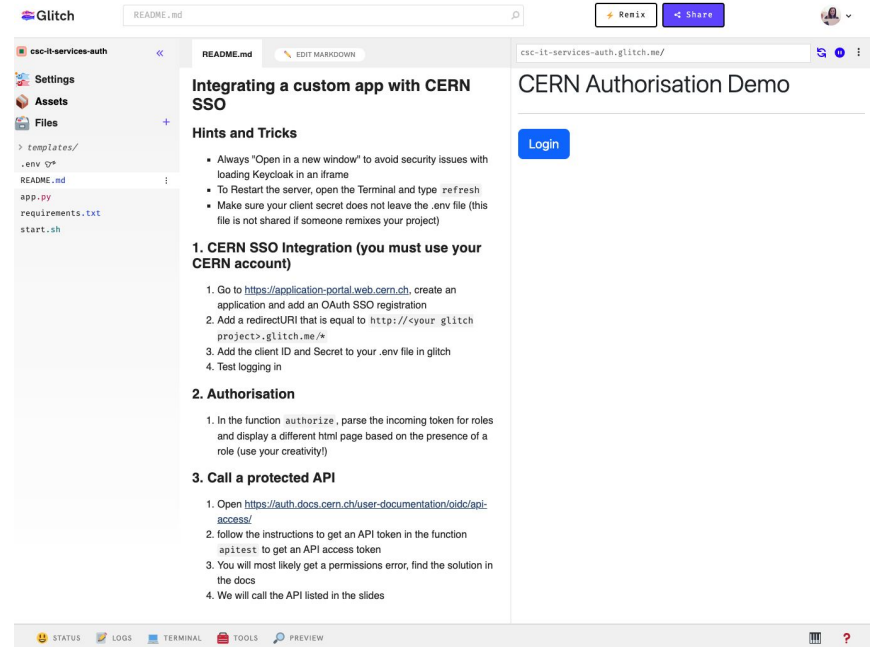
- **Token exchange**

<https://auth.docs.cern.ch/user-documentation/oidc/exchange-for-api/>

- For calling a downstream API **as the logged in user**
- The downstream API will need to grant you Token Exchange permissions

# Exercise 3 - Your own custom application

- Go to <https://glitch.com/edit/#!/csc-it-services-auth> and “remix”
- Follow the instructions in the readme (read the hints and tricks section!)
- We will call the API <https://auth-test-api.web.cern.ch> which accepts the token audience “auth-test-api”



The screenshot shows a Glitch project editor interface. The project name is 'csc-it-services-auth'. The README file is open, displaying the following content:

## Integrating a custom app with CERN SSO

### Hints and Tricks

- Always "Open in a new window" to avoid security issues with loading Keycloak in an iframe
- To Restart the server, open the Terminal and type `refresh`
- Make sure your client secret does not leave the `.env` file (this file is not shared if someone remixes your project)

### 1. CERN SSO Integration (you must use your CERN account)

1. Go to <https://application-portal.web.cern.ch>, create an application and add an OAuth SSO registration
2. Add a redirectURI that is equal to `http://<your_glitch_project>.glitch.me/*`
3. Add the client ID and Secret to your `.env` file in glitch
4. Test logging in

### 2. Authorisation

1. In the function `authorize`, parse the incoming token for roles and display a different html page based on the presence of a role (use your creativity!)

### 3. Call a protected API

1. Open <https://auth.docs.cern.ch/user-documentation/oidc/api-access/>
2. follow the instructions to get an API token in the function `apitest` to get an API access token
3. You will most likely get a permissions error, find the solution in the docs
4. We will call the API listed in the slides



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# Enjoy the school!

Thanks for participating and come back to us if you need help with authentication or authorisation