



# Global eduroam Governance Committee Charter

## Version History

V2	09 December 2016	Updated by the 2 <sup>nd</sup> term GeGC.
V1	22 September 2010	Created by Karel Vietsch and approved by the TEC.

## 1. Definitions

eduroam	eduroam is a federated roaming service that provides secure network access by authenticating a user with their own credentials issued by their Identity Provider.
eduroam Compliance Statement	The eduroam Compliance Statement outlines the minimum technical and organisational standards for roaming operators (RO) and roaming confederations (RC) in order to provide the global eduroam service. Implementing the minimum standard requires the coordination of roaming operators (RO) and roaming confederations (RC).
eduroam Roaming Confederation (RC)	An eduroam Roaming Confederation is a cohesive set of Roaming Operators. While it is common this set originates from a world region, it is not restricted to such. For example, it may be defined by mutual interests or a shared common language. The Roaming Operators that are members of the RC, are bound by an 'eduroam confederation policy', and are required to operate the eduroam service on the basis of the operational and technical requirements that are referred to in that document.
eduroam Identity Provider (IdP)	An eduroam Identity Provider (IdP) is an entity that creates and maintains user accounts for access to eduroam. An IdP is also referred to as the user's 'home institution'.
eduroam Roaming Operator (RO)	An eduroam Roaming Operator (RO) is an entity that is authorised to operate the eduroam service at a national, territorial or regional level. In many countries there is a National Research and Education Networking organisation (NREN) that acts as the RO of the territory or country.
eduroam Secretariat	The eduroam Secretariat is the body appointed to support the GeGC and the process for appointing members to the GeGC.
eduroam Service Provider (SP)	An eduroam Service Provider (SP) is an entity that operates an access network on which eduroam users are admitted. An SP is sometimes referred to as the 'visited institution' of the user.
Global eduroam Governance Committee (GeGC)	The Global eduroam Governance Committee (GeGC) is the group of individuals nominated to provide a central role in the global eduroam governance structure.

## 2. Appointment of the eduroam Secretariat

The GeGC is responsible for nominating an organisation to act as the eduroam Secretariat. The appointment of the eduroam Secretariat is to be confirmed by the GeGC at the beginning of each Charter period, but is not subject to any term limitations. The eduroam Secretariat is then responsible for facilitating the GeGC as described below, including facilitating the process of appointing new members to the GeGC every two-year period. A representative of the eduroam Secretariat attends all GeGC meetings as a non-voting member.

## 3. Global eduroam Governance Structure

The *Global eduroam Governance Committee (GeGC)* has the central role in the global eduroam governance structure.

The members of the GeGC are representatives of RCs and ROs worldwide. If a world region is represented by an RC, the representatives from that world region are nominated by the RC. If a world region is not represented by an RC, then the ROs in that world region jointly nominate their representatives in the GeGC. The GeGC members are officially appointed by the eduroam Secretariat on the basis of these nominations.

In order to allow the GeGC to work efficiently and effectively, the number of its members will be kept small. The seat allocations are currently shown in the table below. As new regions and confederations are developed this seat allocation will be updated by the eduroam Secretariat to accurately reflect fair representation.

The GeGC regions reflect those used by Regional Internet Registries

([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regional\\_Internet\\_registry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regional_Internet_registry)) and countries will be expected to align to those regions for representation on the GeGC.

Europe (aligned with RIPE NCC)	3 members
Asia Pacific (aligned with APNIC)	3 members
North America (aligned with ARIN)	3 members
Latin America (aligned with LACNIC)	3 members
Africa (aligned with AFRINIC)	3 members

Regional representatives may be appointed through a process of nominations from the ROs in each region. Where more nominations than seats are received, the eduroam Secretariat will make the final decision. In addition, the GeGC may appoint prominent eduroam experts as non-voting members of the GeGC. Members will be appointed for a two-year term of office. At the end of each two-year term ROs will be invited to participate in a new nominations process.

The GeGC will aim to take decisions by consensus among its members; if consensus cannot be reached, decisions will be taken by simple majority. The GeGC will appoint a chair for each term of office from amongst its members.

#### 4. Duties

The GeGC will carry out the following tasks:

- To formulate the text of the eduroam Compliance Statement and any later revisions of the Compliance Statement that may become necessary because of changes in technology or in the eduroam environment. The GeGC will consult the ROs (through their confederations, where applicable) before finalising the text of a new version of the Compliance Statement.
- To collect eduroam Compliance Statements signed by RCs or potential ROs, and to recommend – after investigation of the recognition of each potential RO by the research and education community that it is expected to serve – authorising the members of the RC or the potential RO concerned to operate the eduroam service.
- To recommend removing the authorisation of the members of an RC or of an RO to operate the eduroam service if the RC or RO concerned has not signed the newest version of the Compliance Statement within a reasonable period.
- To investigate complaints which suggest that an RC or an RO acts in severe violation of the eduroam Compliance Statement. If in the judgment of the GeGC the RC or the RO is indeed in severe violation of the Compliance Statement and the situation cannot be remedied within a reasonable period, the GeGC may recommend removing the authorisation of the members of the RC or of the RO to operate the eduroam service.
- To advise the eduroam Secretariat, the RCs, the ROs, the IdPs and/or the SPs about the proper operations of the eduroam service and any changing requirements.

The eduroam Secretariat will:

- Appoint the members of the GeGC nominated by the RC of a world region or nominated jointly by the ROs in a world region where no RC exists; appoint eduroam experts as non-voting members of the GeGC.
- Approve (new versions of) the eduroam Compliance Statement on the proposal of the GeGC.
- On the proposal of the GeGC, authorise the members of an RC or an RO to operate the eduroam service, or remove the authorisation of the members of an RC or an RO to operate the eduroam service.
- Provide a secretary to the GeGC, provide the email and postal mail address for the GeGC and maintain the repository of documents issued and received by the GeGC.
- Host and maintain the global eduroam website, and any necessary global eduroam communication channels (including a mailing list that RCs and ROs can use to ask each other for advice on (operational) eduroam issues).

#### 5. eduroam Compliance Statement

In order to be authorised to operate the eduroam service, a potential RO is requested to sign an eduroam Compliance Statement. In world regions where Roaming Operators are members of an RC and the RC is authorised to commit its members, the Compliance Statement is signed by the RC on behalf of its members. All ROs within confederations are expected to adhere to the requirements of the eduroam Compliance Statement, regardless of the signatory. The GeGC has no requirements for confederation infrastructure at this time.

By signing the Compliance Statement (or having their RC sign the Compliance Statement on their behalf), ROs commit to ensure that they themselves, their RC, their IdPs and their SPs comply with certain technical and administrative requirements.

The Compliance Statement signed by an RC or RO forms the basis for RCs or ROs in other world regions or countries to peer with each other.