



# End-to-End User Authentication with OpenID Connect: Use Cases and Benefits

by Jonas Primbs, Chair of Communication Networks, Faculty of Science, University of Tübingen, Germany

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 /JonasPrimbs

<http://kn.inf.uni-tuebingen.de>



- ▶ Assume a follow-up email conversation with me:
  - How can you be sure that this is really me?
- ▶ Remember contact info from first slide:



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[X /JonasPrimbs](#)

← **Contact information**

- ▶ Goal: use OIDC accounts for end-to-end authentication

Hello



Primbs, Jonas

Hi,

I'm Jonas from the OSW 2023.  
Let's keep in touch!

Greetings,  
Jonas

**Jonas Primbs M.Sc.**

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Primbs, Jonas

**FAKE?**



Contact >

○ Presence unknown - Free at 18:00

✉ [jonas.primbs@uni-tuebingen.de](mailto:jonas.primbs@uni-tuebingen.de)

Show more

Organization >

We didn't find an organizational chart.

Show organization

Membership >

We couldn't find any groups.

Show more



## Message Layer Authentication with OpenID Connect

by Jonas Primbs, Chair of Communication Networks, Faculty of Science, University of Tübingen, Germany

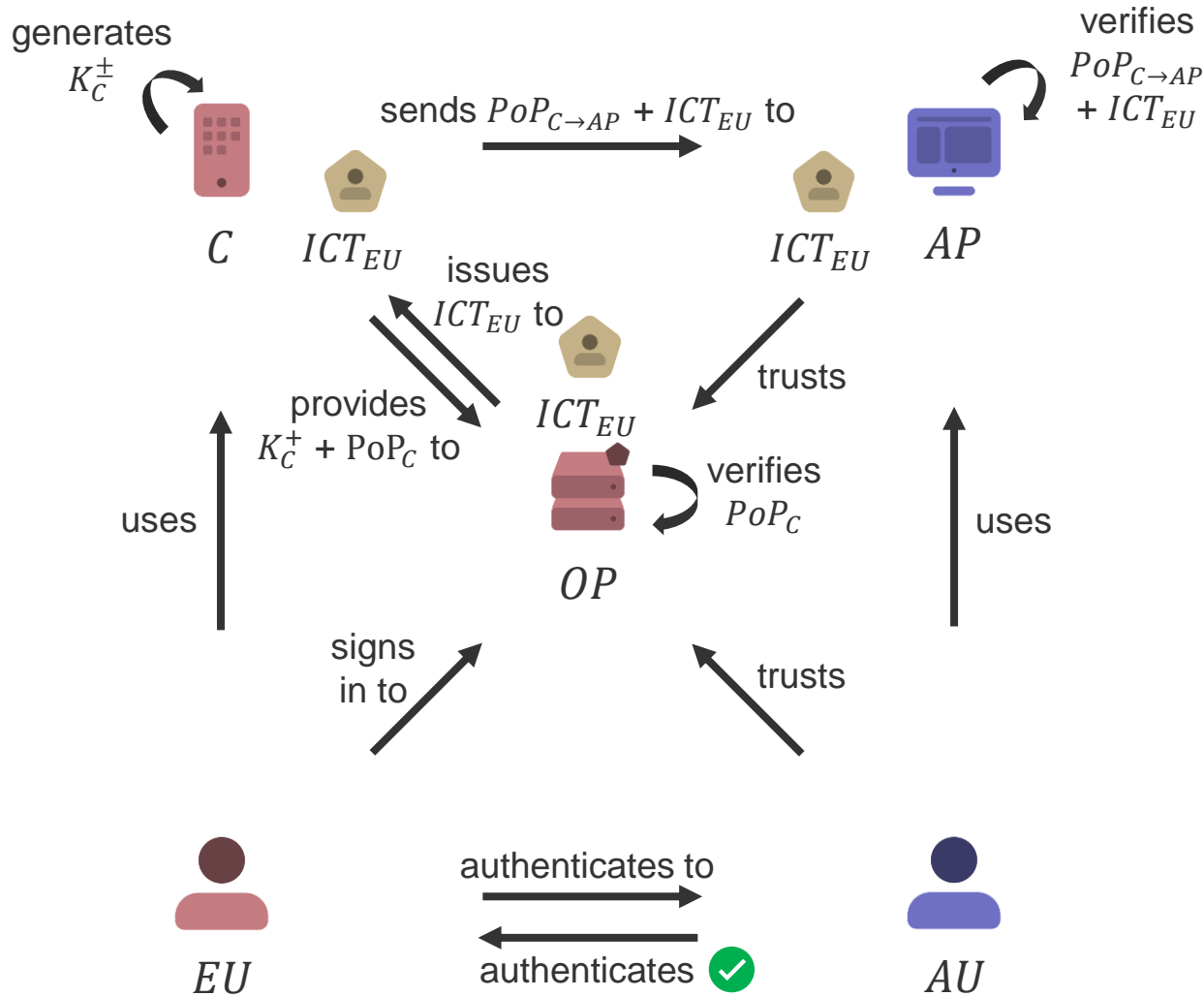
<http://kn.inf.uni-tuebingen.de>

# OAuth Security Workshop 2022

## Trondheim, Norway



# Recap + Update: Terminology



## End User (EU)

Resource Owner / real person



## Client (C)

Client application of the EU



## OpenID Provider (OP)

Identity Provider of the EU



## Identity Certification Token (ICT)

JWT with identity claims of EU + public key of C ( $K_C^+$ ), signed by OP, if proof of possession for  $K_C^-$  ( $PoP_C$ ) is valid



## Authenticating User (AU)

User who authenticates the EU



## Authenticating Party (AP)

Client application of the AU



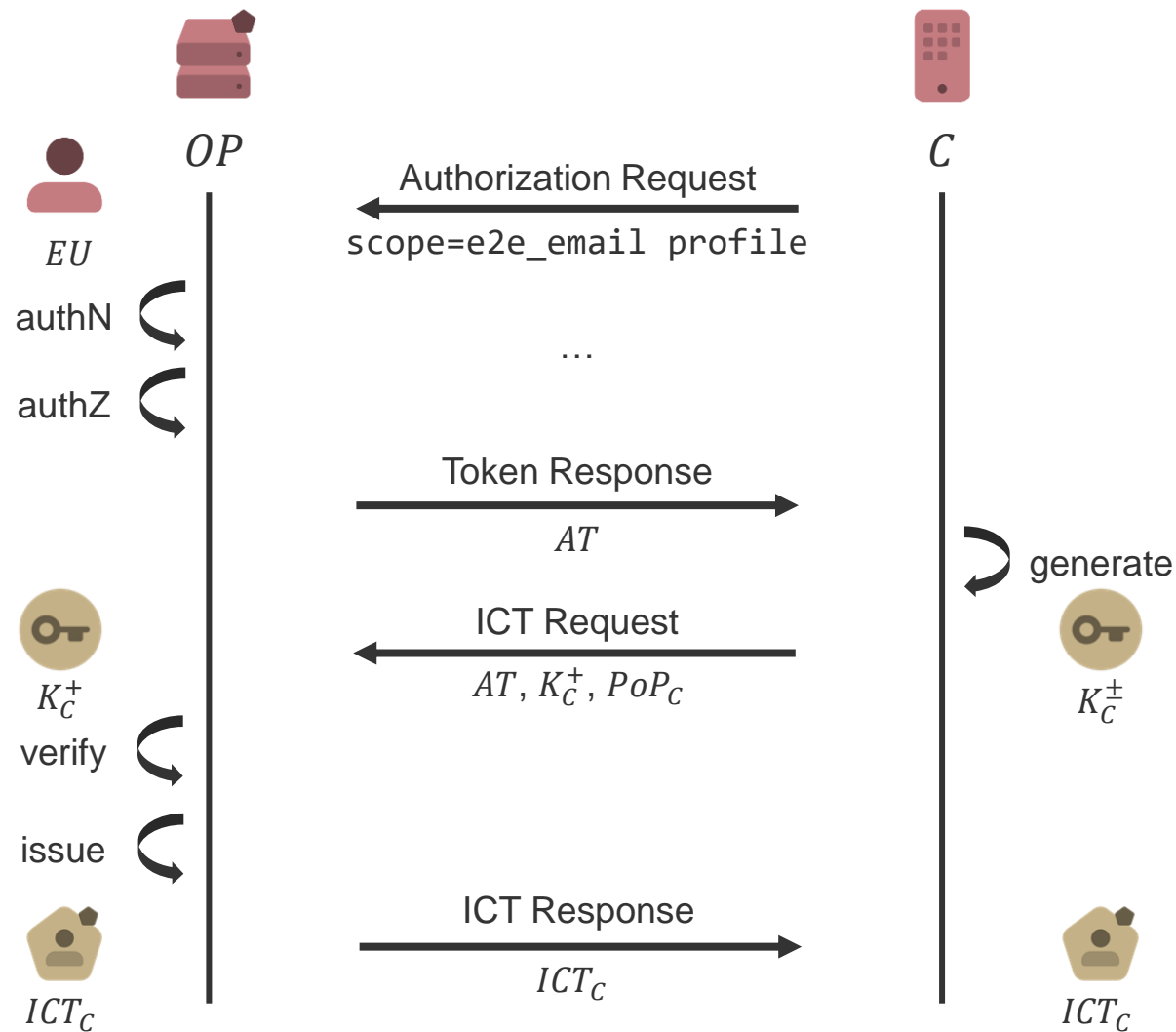
The screenshot shows an email client interface. The email is from Jonas Primbs (j.primbs@gmail.com) with the subject "OIDC²". The body of the email says "Hello, it's me, Jonas!". There is an OpenPGP attachment named "OpenPGP\_0X819C4A9A7ACABBD5.asc" (916 Bytes). The attachment is being downloaded, and its content is shown in a preview window. The content of the attachment is a PGP public key block:

```
-----BEGIN PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
xm8EZNzDKRMFK4EEACIDAwSCHSwbk142a26f0SctzLRNjX
WG3
YpAQ7U2/yQevyn0XpIyzrrmQD+q1B0JUWv/AiLk2ntGUsy
2Zc
oRjpuKLCU802eNMh0IFM2DjF0/MDswrNIUpvbmFzIFByaw
m1t
YnNAZ21hawWuY29tPskYBBATCQBEBYJK3MMPBYkACTqABA
pp6
yrvVAXUICgQWAAIBAhkBapsDAh4BFiEEewhu2tPmnPeUq0
9UA
ALX+AXwN/Lhv38e+q5H2dzKBt1ZpPYUs4q0Ww2nupC3Vox
AXn
-----END PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
```



## Recap + Update: Obtain an ICT

1. C sends OAuth 2 Authorization Request to OP
  - Contains scope request for end-to-end context (e2e\_email) and profile information (profile)
2. EU authenticates to OP and authorizes requested scopes
3. OP responds with Access Token (AT) in Token Response
  - AT authorizes for granted scopes
4. C generates asymmetric key pair  $K_C^\pm$
5. C sends ICT Request to OP
  - Contains public key AT,  $K_C^+$ , and PoP of  $K_C^-$
6. OP verifies ICT Request
  - Requires verification of AT and PoP
7. RP issues ICT in ICT Response





# Recap + Update: Use an ICT

1. C sends E2E Authentication message to AP
  - Contains ICT and a new PoP for the AP
2. AP verifies ICT and PoP
  - PoP valid for ICT's  $K_C^+$ ?
  - Does the AU trust the OP?
  - ICT valid?

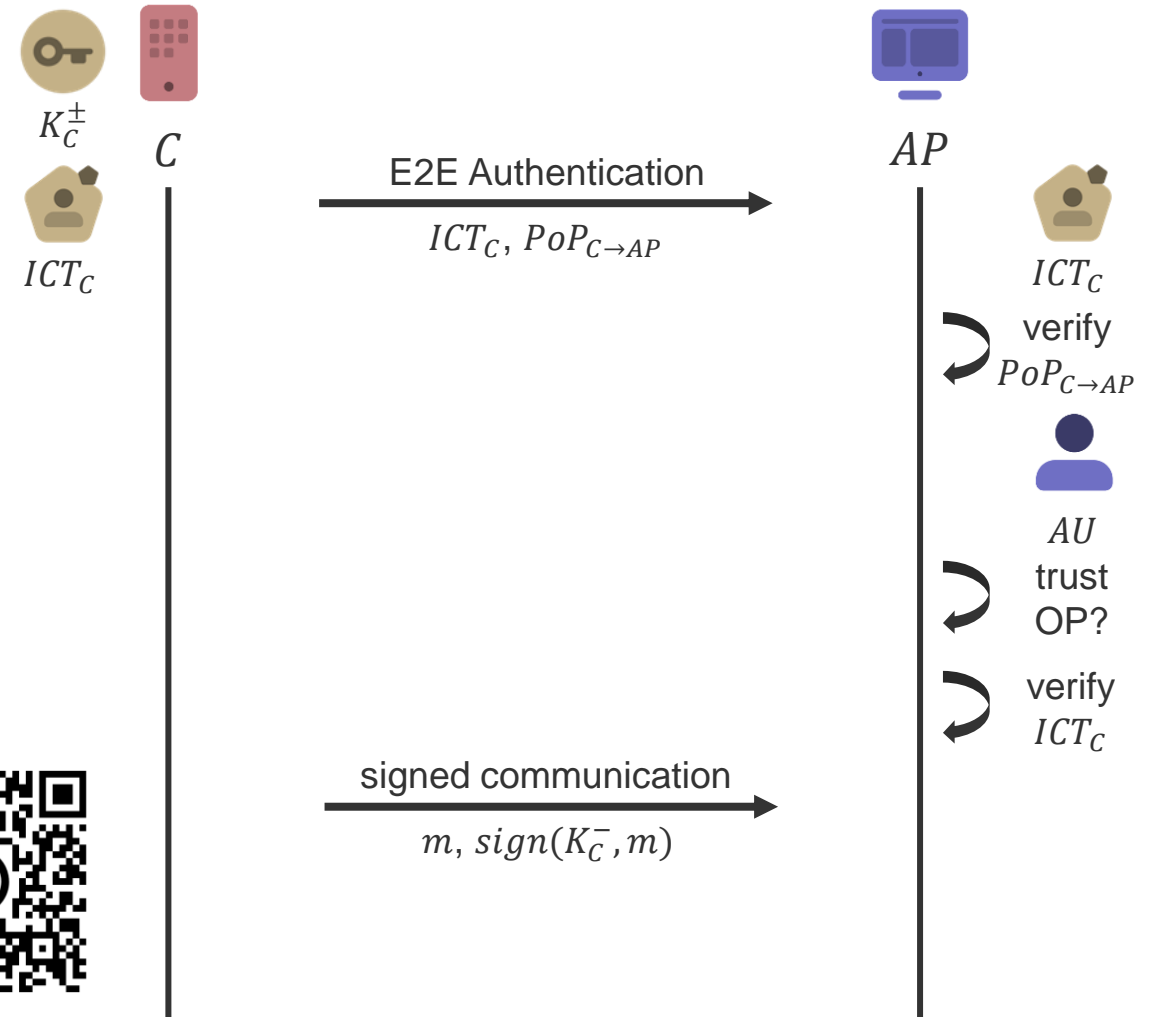
- ▶ Continue with signed communication
  - Using trusted  $K_C^-$  as signing key

- ▶ We call it “**Open Identity Certification for OIDC**”
  - Aka **OIDC<sup>2</sup>**

- ▶ Draft is on GitHub!
  - Pull requests and discussions are welcome!



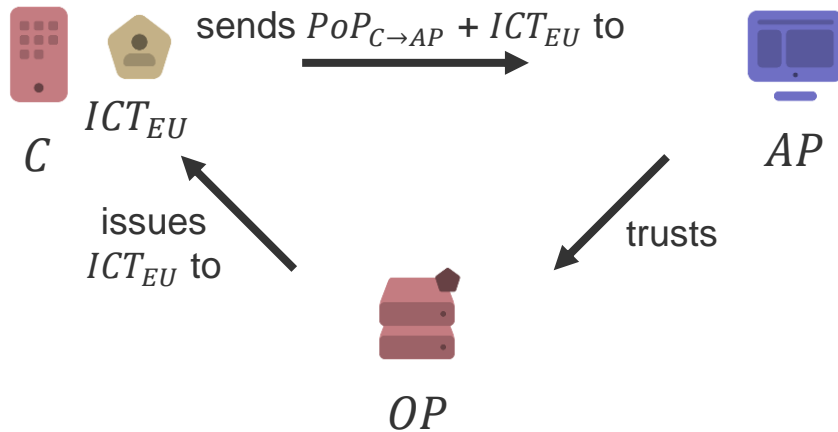
<https://bit.ly/oidc2>





## OIDC<sup>2</sup>

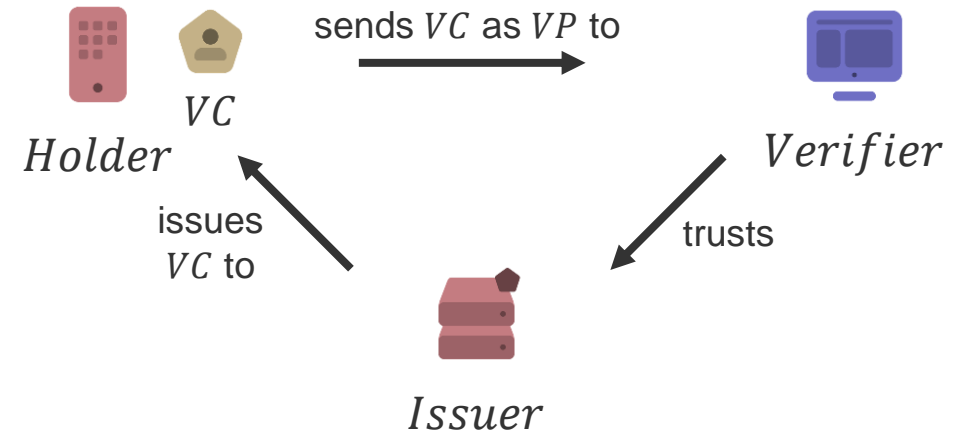
### ► Trust relationship:



- ICT attests identity claims of EU
- C authenticates with PoP + ICT to AP
- Requires deployed OIDC infrastructure
- Key pair and ICT are **short-lived**
- **No** key revocation mechanism required

## SSI

### ► Trust relationship:



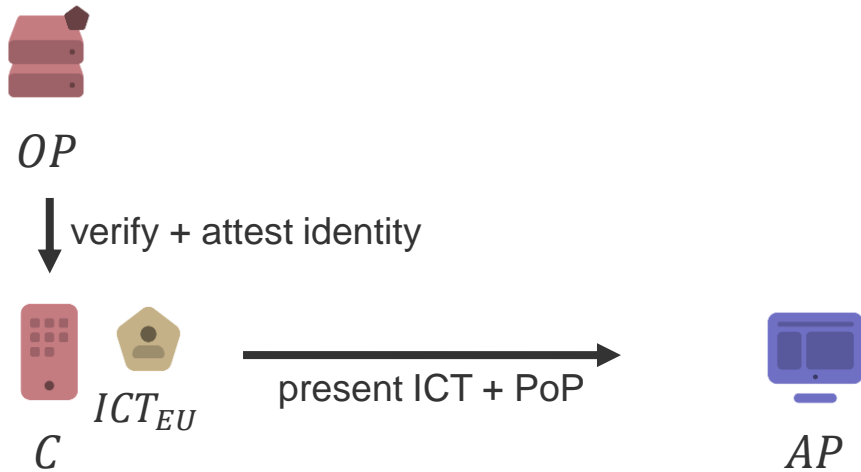
- VC attests claims of Holder
- Holder authenticates with VP to Verifier
- Requires deployed SSI infrastructure
- Key pair and VC are **long-lived**
- Key revocation requires verification





## OIDC<sup>2</sup>

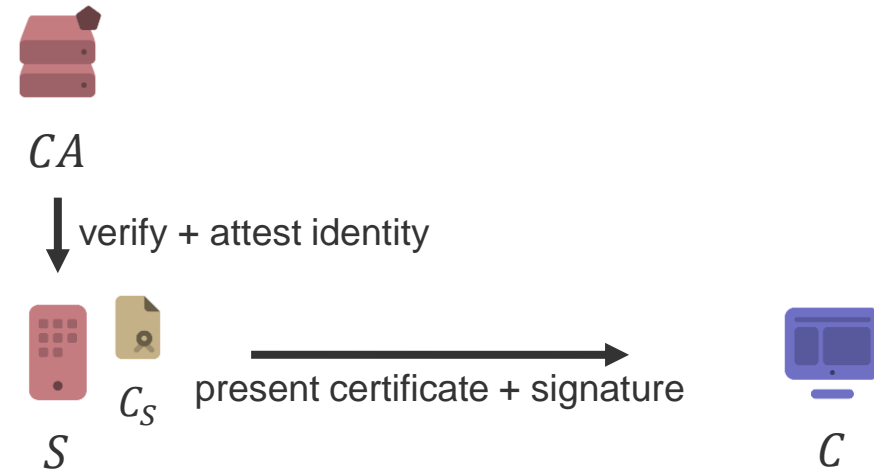
### ▶ Trust relationship:



- ▶ AP must trust OP
- ▶ EU signs into OP; C proves possession of  $K_C^-$  to obtain an ICT
- ▶ AP authenticates C by ICT and PoP
- ▶ **No** key revocation mechanism required

## PKI

### ▶ Trust relationship:



- ▶ Client (C) must trust Certificate Authority (CA)
- ▶ Service (S) performs ACME challenge to obtain an X.509 certificate
- ▶ C authenticates S by certificate and signature
- ▶ Key revocation requires verification



## Do!

- ▶ Users authenticate themselves end-to-end
  - Intermediate services are not trusted
- ▶ Users identify each other with OIDC accounts
  - Or claims the OP is an authority for
- ▶ Users authenticate themselves only online
  - ICTs are requested on demand

## Don't!

- ▶ Users authenticate to intermediate services
  - Use normal OIDC instead
- ▶ Users identify each other via attributes
  - Requires attestation by authority (CA or Issuer)
- ▶ Users may authenticate themselves offline
  - Requires long-lived certificates or VCs



▶ Next steps:

- Prototype for instant messaging with Matrix
- Prototype for video conferencing with WebRTC
- Further improve OpenID Draft



<https://bit.ly/oidc2>

▶ Suggestions welcome!

- Feel free to open discussions on GitHub

▶ Participation welcome!

- Feel free to send a pull request on GitHub

▶ Want to stay in touch?

- Here are my OIDC profiles:

 /in/jonasprimbs

 /JonasPrimbs

- Or mail to: [jonas.primbs@uni-tuebingen.de](mailto:jonas.primbs@uni-tuebingen.de)

# Thank you!