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Access to the 3GPP 5G Core Network (5GCN) via non-3GPP
access networks
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1 Scope

The present document specifies non-3GPP access network discovery and selection procedures, the access authorization procedure used for accessing untrusted non-3GPP access networks.

The present document also specifies the security association management procedures used for establishing IKEv2 and IPsec security associations between the UE and the N3IWF and the procedures for transporting messages between the UE and the N3IWF over the non-3GPP access networks.

The present document is applicable to the UE and the network. In this technical specification the network refers to the 3GPP 5GCN and the untrusted non-3GPP access network.

2 References

The following documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of the present document.

- References are either specific (identified by date of publication, edition number, version number, etc.) or non-specific.
- For a specific reference, subsequent revisions do not apply.
- For a non-specific reference, the latest version applies. In the case of a reference to a 3GPP document (including a GSM document), a non-specific reference implicitly refers to the latest version of that document *in the same Release as the present document*.

- [1] 3GPP TR 21.905: "Vocabulary for 3GPP Specifications".
- [2] 3GPP TS 23.501: "System Architecture for the 5G System; Stage 2".
- [3] 3GPP TS 23.502: "Procedures for the 5G System; Stage 2".
- [4] 3GPP TS 24.501: "Access-Stratum (NAS) protocol for 5G System (5GS); Stage 3".
- [5] 3GPP TS 33.501: "Security architecture and procedures for 5G System".
- [6] IETF RFC 7296: "Internet Key Exchange Protocol Version 2 (IKEv2)".
- [7] 3GPP TS 24.302: "Access to the 3GPP Evolved Packet Core (EPC) via non-3GPP access networks; Stage 3".
- [8] 3GPP TS 23.003: "Numbering, addressing and identification".
- [9] IETF RFC 3748: "Extensible Authentication Protocol (EAP)".
- [10] 3GPP TS 33.402: "3GPP System Architecture Evolution (SAE); Security aspects of non-3GPP accesses."
- [11] IETF RFC 4303: "IP Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP)".
- [12] IETF RFC 4301: "Security Architecture for the Internet Protocol".
- [13] 3GPP TS 23.122: "Non-Access-Stratum (NAS) functions related to Mobile Station (MS) in idle mode".
- [14] IETF RFC 2784: "Generic Routing Encapsulation (GRE)".
- [15] IETF RFC 2890: "Key and Sequence Number Extensions to GRE".
- [16] 3GPP TS 23.503: "Policy and Charging Control Framework for the 5G System".
- [17] 3GPP TS 24.526: "User Equipment (UE) policies for 5G System (5GS); Stage 3".
- [18] 3GPP TS 23.402: "Architecture enhancements for non-3GPP accesses".

- [19] IEEE Std 802.11-2012: "IEEE Standard for Information technology - Telecommunications and information exchange between systems - Local and metropolitan area networks - Specific requirements - Part 11: Wireless LAN Medium Access Control (MAC) and Physical Layer (PHY) Specifications".
- [20] Wi-Fi Alliance: "Hotspot 2.0 (Release 2) Technical Specification, version 1.0.0", 2014-08-08.
- [21] ITU-T Recommendation E.212: "The international identification plan for public networks and subscriptions", 2016-09-23.
- [22] 3GPP TS 24.007: "Mobile radio interface signalling layer 3; General aspects".
- [23] IETF RFC 4555: "IKEv2 Mobility and Multihoming Protocol (MOBIKE)".
- [24] IETF RFC 791: "INTERNET PROTOCOL".
- [25] IETF RFC 8200: "Internet Protocol, Version 6 (IPv6) Specification".
- [26] IETF RFC 2474: "Definition of the Differentiated Services Field (DS Field) in the IPv4 and IPv6 Headers".
- [27] IETF RFC 793: "Transmission Control Protocol".
- [28] 3GPP TS 24.008: "Mobile radio interface Layer 3 specification; Core network protocols; Stage 3".
- [29] 3GPP TS 38.413: "NG Application Protocol (NGAP)".

3 Definitions, symbols and abbreviations

3.1 Definitions

For the purposes of the present document, the terms and definitions given in 3GPP TR 21.905 [1] and the following apply. A term defined in the present document takes precedence over the definition of the same term, if any, in 3GPP TR 21.905 [1].

MTU: Maximum transmission unit (MTU) is the largest PDU size which can be transmitted and received by a network entity in one single IP packet without any need for IP fragmentation.

NWu: In this specification, NWu is the reference point between the UE and the N3IWF for establishing secure tunnel(s) between the UE and the N3IWF so that control-plane and user-plane exchanged between the UE and the 5G core network is transferred securely over untrusted non-3GPP access.

For the purposes of the present document, the following terms and definitions given in 3GPP TS 23.501 [2] apply:

5G Access Network
5G Core Network
5G QoS flow
5G QoS identifier
5G System
PDU Session

For the purposes of the present document, the following terms and definitions given in 3GPP TS 23.003 [8] apply:

NAI

For the purposes of the present document, the following terms and definitions given in 3GPP TS 33.501 [5] apply:

SUPI
SUCI

3.2 Abbreviations

For the purposes of the present document, the abbreviations given in 3GPP TR 21.905 [1] and the following apply. An abbreviation defined in the present document takes precedence over the definition of the same abbreviation, if any, in 3GPP TR 21.905 [1].

5GCN	5G Core Network
5GS	5G System
5G-AN	5G Access Network
5QI	5G QoS Identifier
AMF	Access and Mobility Management Function
ANDS	Access Network Discovery and Selection
ANDSP	Access Network Discovery and Selection Policy
AUSF	Authentication Server Function
CP	Control Plane
DL	Downlink
DNS	Domain Name System
DSCP	Differentiated Services Code Point
ePDG	Evolved Packet Data Gateway
ESP	Encapsulating Security Payload
FQDN	Fully Qualified Domain Name
H-PCF	A PCF in the HPLMN
IP	Internet Protocol
IPsec	Internet Protocol Security
N3AN	Non-3GPP Access Network
N3IWF	Non-3GPP InterWorking Function
NAI	Network Access Identifier
NAS	Non Access Stratum
PCF	Policy control Function
PDU	Protocol Data Unit
QFI	QoS Flow Identifier
RQI	Reflective QoS Indicator
SA	Security Association
SPI	Security Parameters Index
SUPI	Subscription Permanent Identifier
SUCI	Subscription Concealed Identifier
TCP	Transmission Control Protocol
UL	Uplink
UP	User Plane
UPF	User Plane Function
V-PCF	A PCF in the VPLMN
WLANSF	WLAN Selection Policy

4 General

4.1 Overview

The 5G core network supports the connectivity of the UE via non-3GPP access networks. In this release of specification, only untrusted non-3GPP access is supported.

4.2 Untrusted access

For an untrusted non-3GPP access network, the communication between the UE and the 5GCN is not trusted to be secure.

For an untrusted non-3GPP access network, to secure communication between the UE and the 5GCN, a UE establishes secure connection to the 5G core network over untrusted non-3GPP access via the N3IWF. The UE performs registration to the 5G core network during the IKEv2 SA establishment procedure as specified in 3GPP TS 24.501 [4] and IETF RFC 7296 [6]. After the registration, the UE supports NAS signalling with 5GCN using the N1 reference

point as specified in 3GPP TS 24.501 [4]. The N3IWF interfaces the 5GCN CP function via the N2 interface to the AMF and the 5GCN UP functions via N3 interface to the UPF as described in 3GPP TS 23.501 [2].

4.3 Identities

4.3.1 User identities

When the UE accesses the 5GCN over non-3GPP access networks, the same permanent identities for 3GPP access are used to identify the subscriber for non-3GPP access authentication, authorization and accounting services.

The Subscription Permanent Identifier (SUPI) is defined in 3GPP TS 33.501 [5]. The SUPI can contain either an IMSI or a network specific identifier as specified in 3GPP TS 23.501 [2]. A SUPI containing an IMSI is defined in 3GPP TS 23.003 [8]. A SUPI containing a network specific identifier always takes the form of a NAI as defined in 3GPP TS 23.003 [8].

The Subscription Concealed Identifier (SUCI) is a privacy preserving identifier containing the concealed SUPI as specified in 3GPP TS 33.501 [5]. SUCI is calculated from SUPI. When the SUPI contains an IMSI, the corresponding SUCI is derived as specified in 3GPP TS 23.003 [8]. When the SUPI contains a network specific identifier, the corresponding SUCI in NAI format is derived as specified in 3GPP TS 23.003 [8].

User identification in non-3GPP accesses can require additional identities that are out of the scope of 3GPP.

4.3.2 FQDN for N3IWF Selection

An N3IWF FQDN is either provisioned by the home operator or constructed by the UE in either the Operator Identifier FQDN format or the Tracking Area Identity FQDN format as specified in 3GPP TS 23.003 [8],

The N3IWF FQDN is used as input to the DNS mechanism for N3IWF selection.

4.4 Quality of service support

4.4.1 General

When the UE accesses the 3GPP 5G System (5GS) via non-3GPP access networks, the same QoS flow based 5G QoS model and principles are followed as described in 3GPP TS 23.501 [2]. For PDU sessions that were established over non-3GPP access, the QoS flow remains to be the finest granularity of QoS differentiation in the PDU Session.

4.4.2 QoS differentiation in untrusted non-3GPP access

4.4.2.1 General

For untrusted non-3GPP access, the N3IWF is the access network node that provides QoS signalling to support QoS differentiation and mapping of QoS flows to non-3GPP access resources.

4.4.2.2 QoS signalling

A QoS flow is controlled by the SMF and can be preconfigured, or established via the UE requested PDU Session establishment via untrusted non-3GPP access procedure, the UE or network requested PDU session modification via untrusted non-3GPP access procedure. (see 3GPP TS 23.502 [3]),

During PDU session establishment, based on local policies, pre-configuration and the QoS profiles received, the N3IWF determines the number of IPsec child SAs to establish and the QoS profiles associated with each IPsec child SA. The N3IWF then initiates IPsec SA creation procedure to establish Child SAs associating to the QoS flows of the PDU session.

4.4.2.3 QoS differentiation in user plane

For uplink, the UE associates an uplink user data packet with a QFI as specified in 3GPP TS 24.501 [4]. The UE shall then encapsulate the uplink user data packet and the QFI associated with the uplink user data packet in the GRE header and select IPsec child SA based on PDU session and QFI associated with the uplink user data packet as specified in subclause 8.3.

For downlink, the UPF maps the user data packet to a QoS flow. The N3IWF shall determine the IPsec child SA to use for sending of the downlink user data packet over NWu based on mapping of the QoS flow to the IPsec child SA based on QFI of the QoS flow of the user data packet and the identity of the PDU Session of the user data packet.

4.4.2.4 Reflective QoS

Reflective QoS is also supported when the UE accesses the 5GCN via untrusted non-3GPP access network as specified in 3GPP TS 23.502 [3]. If the N3IWF receives a downlink user packet associated with Reflective QoS Indicator (RQI), the N3IWF shall set the RQI in the GRE header when the N3IWF encapsulates the downlink user data packet into a GRE encapsulated user data packet as specified in subclause 8.3.

4.4.2.5 QoS enforcement

If the UE is provided with maximum flow bit rate (MFBR) for UL for a QFI as specified in 3GPP TS 24.501 [4], the UE should send user data packets associated with the QFI with a bitrate lower than or equal to the maximum flow bit rate (MFBR) for UL.

5 Network discovery and selection

5.1 General

The following aspects are included when selecting a 5GC network and routing traffic via the 5GC network:

- a) access network discovery procedures as defined in subclause 5.2;
- b) access network selection procedures as defined in subclause 5.3; and
- c) access network reselection procedures as defined in subclause 5.4.

5.2 Access network discovery procedure

5.2.1 General

If PLMN selection specified in 3GPP TS 23.122 [13] is applicable (e.g., at switch-on, recovery from lack of 3GPP coverage, or user selection of applicable 3GPP access technology), the PLMN selection to select the highest priority PLMN according to these specifications is performed before any access network discovery.

In the access network discovery procedure, the UE can get ANDSP information on available access networks in its vicinity and can use this information when determining the presence of operator preferred access networks. Determination of the presence of access networks requires using radio access specific procedures, which are not further described here.

5.2.2 Discovering availability of WLAN access networks

The UE may obtain WLAN Selection Policy (WLANSP) rules information by pre-configuration or by downloading the policy information from the PCF as specified in 3GPP TS 23.503 [16]. The policy contains the UE access network discovery and selection related policy information to help the UE in discovering and selecting a WLAN access network (see 3GPP TS 24.526 [17]).