

Dear reader,

As the saying goes: If you want it to be good, just do it yourself. That's what the organisations behind eduMFA thought. eduMFA is a new authentication software modelled on privacyIDEA but with additional features to better support the needs of the research community. Find all the information about the launch in our newsletter.

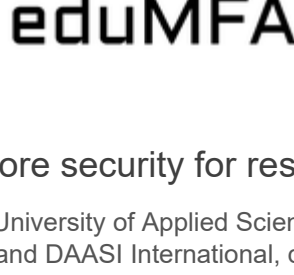
We have also compiled the following topics for you: Impressions of the TIIME Unconference, which successfully returned from its pandemic-related slumber last January, information on the AARC TREE project launch and the publication of a new Harvard study on open source as an important economic factor. And finally, you will get to know our two new employees who joined our team at the beginning of this year.

I wish you an enjoyable read and happy Easter holidays!

Kind regards,

Jennifer Vosseler
Head of Marketing at DAASI International

News



Launch of "eduMFA": More security for research infrastructures

An alliance of the FU Berlin, the University of Applied Sciences Munich and the University of Bamberg, as well as the GWDG and DAASI International, developed "eduMFA", an open source solution to enhance the protection of scientific IT infrastructures against hacking. The software is a fork of privacyIDEA and, like the latter, enables multi-factor authentication, yet integrates additional security procedures and university-specific requirements. eduMFA is already in use at the Munich University of Applied Sciences and the Freie Universität Berlin. It is expected that "eduMFA" will quickly establish within the educational landscape. DAASI International now provides all its services for eduMFA as well. For more information, check out the press release (German only).

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AARC enters the next round

Behind the first AARC project was the vision of a globally standardised Authentication and Authorisation Infrastructure (AAI) for research infrastructures. AARC TREE stands for Authentication and Authorisation for Research and Collaboration - Technical Revision to Enhance Effectiveness and is already the third iteration of the project launched in 2015. Once again, the aim is to further develop interoperable and scalable solutions that facilitate access to research data and resources. You can read more about AARC TREE and DAASI International's contribution to the project in the following news article.

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Peter Gietz elected to the DFN Board of Directors

On 14th of December 2023, the Administrative Board and Executive Board of the [German Research Network \(DFN\)](#) were newly elected. DAASI International's CEO, Peter Gietz, was elected as a new member of the Board of Directors. Find out more about Peter Gietz and his career on our website.

[View vita](#)



Welcome on board, Steffi & Markus!

Dr Steffi Dobretzberger (Full Stack Developer) and Markus Götz (Scrum Master) joined the DAASI International team in January, bringing new ideas and enriching us with their expertise. Find out more about Steffi and Markus on our team page.

[View team](#)

Events



TIIME 2024 - Recap

After a forced break due to the pandemic and the change of organisers, the TIIME - Trust and Internet Identity Meeting Europe took place again in January. Around 100 identity management experts and stakeholders from all over Europe met in Copenhagen to address the eponymous topic of identity management in all its facets and to advance the technology behind it.

TIIME 2024 was organised by DeIC, GÉANT, SURF and us, DAASI International, and it was a great success! You can find the results of the individual sessions as well as some impressions and further information on TIIME [www.tiime-unconference.eu](#).

Would you like to take part in the next event? Subscribe to the [newsletter](#) to receive timely event information about the upcoming TIIME.

In the following blog post, the local host DeIC looks back on the past TIIME:

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Partner Network

New Keycloak release

Keycloak 24.0.0 has been available for download since 4th of March. The development team has made many improvements and corrections, focussing in particular on the user profile function: from dynamic forms and progressive profiling to the profile preview. More highlights of the new version and information on the minor update already released on 5th of March can be found in the release notes.



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Industry



New Harvard study: Global economy benefits enormously from OSS

Open source software is an enormous cost-saving factor and driver of innovation in the global economy. Companies save up to 3.5 times more costs by using freely available programmes such as Linux, Libre Office & Co. This is the conclusion reached by Frank Nagle, Assistant Professor at Harvard Business School (HBS), in his recently published [study](#). Companies would save costs totalling 8.8 trillion US dollars by using open source.

Further results of the study can be found summarised in the articles from e.g. Heise and OSBA.

[Check Out Project](#)



Federal authorities are increasingly focussing on open source software and open standards

As part of the Online Access Amendment Act, the government factions are cooperating to speed up procedures, improve collaboration between authorities and increase sovereignty. They recommend prioritising the procurement of open source software. The use of open standards should enable more efficient cooperation within the authorities and at the same time reduce dependence on proprietary solutions. The long-term goal is to build a more modern and resilient IT infrastructure.

Details on the Online Access Amendment Act and the far-reaching improvements it will entail can be found on the OSB Alliance website.

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Digital Humanities



Enabling collaboration and inclusion in research libraries

Delegates from across Europe travelled to Florence last November for the LIBER Winter Event to discuss library governance, data management services, citizen science, AI and the creation of library spaces. Jos Westerbecke, IAM expert and chair of the FIM4L working group, gave a [presentation](#) on "Managing Open Access Infrastructure with FIM4L", which he jointly prepared with Peter Gietz. You can find a review and the highlights of the event at the LIBER website.

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Did you know?

How a rubber duck helped Bob with his programming – our version of the story

Once upon a time in the programming world, a developer named Bob was faced with a tricky problem. His code just wasn't working and he spent hours trawling through every line of his code in the hope of finally finding the error. He pondered and puzzled, but the error remained undiscovered.

One day, Bob reached for a yellow rubber duck that happened to be lying on his desk. In desperation, he began to tell it about his code problem. He described every step he had taken, every thought and every idea that came into his head.

And something magical happened: as soon as Bob shared his thoughts with the duck, he suddenly realised where the mistake was! It was as if his monologue with the duck had unknotted his brain and steered his thoughts in the right direction. From then on, Bob kept his newly-squealed yellow rubber duck by his side to help him solve the most complex problems. The so-called [Rubber Duck Debugging](#) was born!

Rubber duck debugging, i.e. articulating a problem in order to solve mental blocks, has developed into a valid method that is not only practised by developers all over the world.

You miss being addressed personally?

DAASI International attaches great importance to the protection of your data. In our opinion this already begins with the principle of **data minimisation**. Therefore we deliberately refrain from asking for names or other personal data in the registration form for this newsletter. This only exception to this is your email address which is necessary in order for you to receive the newsletter. So please do not be surprised if we do not address you personally with your name at the beginning of the newsletter.