

FP7 Research Infrastructures

BSI

Black Sea Interconnection



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Deliverable D1.2

Acceptable Use Policy

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Abstract: This document provides Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) agreed upon for use of any infrastructure that will be provided through the BSI project.

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Document Revision History

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Preface

The Black Sea Interconnection (BSI) project aims to achieve a high-speed network backbone among the NRENs of the South Caucasus countries (Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia) and enable connectivity to the pan-European GÉANT2 network. The BSI project intends to introduce new technologies and services to the Information Society in those countries and be an important leap towards the integration of those countries' scientific potential with the European Research Area. The project involves the development of strategies for interconnecting the existing infrastructures in the region, realization of the connections and supplying operational support for the established network. The project beneficiaries are TUBITAK, GRNET, CEENET, DANTE, GRENA, AZRENA and NAS RA.

The main objectives of the BSI project are:

1. Building a proper regional research and education network among South Caucasus and connecting it to GÉANT2.
2. Integration of South Caucasus scientific potential to Europe by successfully disseminating the infrastructure and promoting the ICT projects in South Caucasus countries.
3. Fostering collaboration between homogenous scientific communities by identifying the involved communities in the region and establishing mechanisms for knowledge transfer.

The BSI project has started its activities on March 2008 and is planned to be completed by the end of February 2010. BSI is coordinated by TUBITAK. The total budget of the project is 1 861 908 € and it is co-funded by the European Commission's Seventh Framework Programme for Research Infrastructures and National budgets of South Caucasian Countries.

The BSI consortium will achieve the following milestones:

Milestone number	Milestone name	Date	Status
M1	Kick-off meeting	M1	√
M2	Project management information system established	M1	√
M3	Promotional package available	M4	
M4	NRENs requirements collected and analysed	M2	√
M5	Technical and operational requirements analysed	M3	√
M6	Tenders prepared	M3	√
M7	Suppliers selected	M4	
M8	Connectivity and equipment contracts signed	M5	
M9	Final BSI topology determined	M5	
M10	Operation of the regional networking infrastructure offering access to BSI NRENs GÉANT2 access	M6	

M11	Management framework in place and stable network operation	M8	
M12	Services/tools selected	M10	
M13	Successful completion of first period project review	M12	
M14	Workshop/Conference Track in region organized	M20	
M15	Services/tools deployed	M20	
M16	Successful completion of project - final project review	M24	

The project will issue the following deliverables:

Del. no.	Deliverable name	Nature	Dissemination Level	Date	Status
D1.1	Project Management Information system	R	CO	M1	√
D1.2	Network Acceptable Use Policy	R	PU	M4	√
D2.1	Requirements capture and an analysis	R	PU	M1	√
D2.2	Networking topology options and implementation approaches	R	PU	M2	√
D3.1	Tender progress report	R	CO	M4/M5/M6	√
D3.2	Network topology	R	PU	M6	
D4.1	Network implementation and equipments configuration	R	PU	M9	
D4.2	Operational procedures and management framework	R	PU	M10	
D4.3	Networking services and tools specifications	R	PU	M12	
D4.4	Deployment of essential network services and management tools	R	PU	M21	
D5.1	Web site, docs repository and mailing lists	R	PU	M1	√
D5.2	BSI Promotional material	O	PU	M8	
D5.3	Stakeholders meetings in beneficiary countries	R	PU	M15	
D5.4	Report on awareness and liaison activities	R	PU	M23	

R = Report, O = Other, PU = Public, CO = Confidential (only for members of the consortium incl. EC).

Executive Summary

What is the focus of this deliverable?

The focus of this deliverable is to provide an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) document that is agreed upon for use within the BSI infrastructure. The BSI AUP will serve to help users understand the boundaries of behaviour and the consequences of violating those boundaries.

What is next in the process?

The conclusions and recommendation from this deliverable will influence BSI Network Operation Center and Support activities.

What are the deliverable contents?

This deliverable consisted of:

- Section 1, an introductory
- Section 2, principles and definitions
- Section 3, outlines the BSI AUP
- Section 4, violating AUP
- Section 5, explores NRENs responsibilities
- Section 6, suggestions and recommendations
- Section 7, concludes the deliverable

Conclusions

Deliverable D1.2 – “BSI Acceptable Use Policy” is a document that serves terms and rules ensuring the decent use of the BSI infrastructure.

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1. Introduction

This Acceptable Use Policy ("AUP") sets forth terms, conditions, requirements and/or guidelines published from time-to-time by the consortium that apply to use of and/or access to BSI servers or network.

The consortium reserves the right to modify this AUP from time-to-time, at its sole discretion, effective upon posting a revised copy of this AUP to BSI's Web site. Any use of the BSI Services by any NREN after such modification shall constitute acceptance of such modification.

It is the responsibility of all NRENs to comply with this AUP. Unless otherwise explicitly permitted in writing by the consortium, no NREN may assign, transfer, distribute, resell, lease or otherwise provide access to any third party to BSI Services or use the infrastructures for the benefit of any third party. Parties may only use the BSI Services for research and educational purposes and in accordance with this AUP.

BSI consortium reserves the right to restrict, suspend and/or terminate any NREN's access to BSI Services if the NREN is known to the consortium to be, or believed by the consortium to be, failing to comply with this AUP. If any NREN does not agree to comply with all of these policies, the NREN must immediately stop use of BSI Services. If a NREN ceases use of BSI Services based on the NREN's non-agreement with this AUP, any and all other agreements with the BSI consortium remain in effect.

2. Background, Principles and Definitions

- **BSI** is the acronym of the *Black Sea Interconnection* project.
- The **BSI consortium** consists of ULAKBIM (coordinator), DANTE, GRNET, CEENET, AzRENA, GRENA and NAS RA.
- **GÉANT** is the Gigabit European Academic Network - the European research and education backbone interconnecting the networks of the European NRENs. The current phase of GÉANT is already known as GÉANT2 – however for the purposes of this document GÉANT and GÉANT2 will be both considered as multiple acronyms for the Gigabit European Academic Network
- The **GÉANT2 consortium** consists of the organization in <http://www.geant2.net/server/show/nav.750>.
- **BSI NRENs** are the NRENs (National Research and Education Networks) of Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia.
- The **purpose of BSI** is to support inter-working, teaching, learning and research within the **BSI NRENs**.
- The **purpose of the research and education networks of the BSI NRENs and their international (GÉANT) connections** is to serve the user communities of the **BSI NRENs** in their activities related to research and education, as well as to their management, administrative, and information oriented tasks.
- **BSI connections** are the communication links which are used to directly or indirectly connect BSI NRENs to the **GÉANT** network
- **BSI infrastructure** is the research and education network which is operated/accessed by the **BSI NRENs** and consists of the **BSI connections**.
- **BSI services** are all those network services available on the basis of the **BSI infrastructure**.
- **BSI resources** are all those tangible and intangible assets, hardware equipment and software tools, as well as human workforce, involved in operation of **BSI infrastructure** and **BSI services**.
- **National networks** of the **BSI NRENs** are the domestic networks serving the user communities of the individual **BSI NRENs**.
- **International (GÉANT) traffic of the BSI NRENs** is the traffic between the **BSI NRENs** and any other NRENs in Europe or any other parts of the world, flowing through GÉANT.
- In view of this document, the following **BSI traffic categories** are taken into consideration:
 - a. Research and Education (R&E) traffic is any Internet traffic directly related to research and/or education, and flowing between research and education organisations.
 - b. Commodity Traffic is any internet traffic directly related to research and/or education, and flowing between a research and/or education organisation and a non-research and/or education organisation.
 - c. Commercial Traffic is any Internet traffic not belonging to the categories of R&E traffic or commodity traffic. Any traffic is practically considered commercial traffic if it is flowing between organisations that are neither research nor education in nature.
 - d. High Performance Research and Education (HP-R&E) traffic is R&E traffic between/among a small subset of research and education organisations requiring high performance network services.
- **Users of the BSI resources** are, on one hand, those organisations which are connected to the **BSI NRENs** and are able to use the **BSI services**, and, on the other hand, those individual users who are able to use the **BSI services** through their connections to the **BSI NRENs**.
- **User communities** of the **BSI NRENs** are the communities consisting of users belonging to the research, education, and public sectors, and possibly some further non-profit organisations being in relation with these sectors (in the followings: research and education user communities), within the countries of the BSI NRENs and being able to use the **BSI services**.
- In view of this document, the following **BSI user categories** are taken into consideration as those ones being eligible to belong to a **BSI NREN**:

- a. University networks,
- b. Networks of research institutions,
- c. Networks of not for-profit research and education organisations,
- d. Non research and education organizations which participate in European Framework Programmes projects, for the lifetime of the project in which they participate
- e. Networks of ministries and public organisations directly related to the above-mentioned institutions, e.g. the Ministries of Education, Ministries of Science, Academy of Sciences, etc.
- f. Public collections, libraries, academic hospitals, as well as research and development departments of other not-for-profit organisations.

The present *AUP (Acceptable Use Policy)* document determines what are considered acceptable and unacceptable use of the national and international academic and research network of the BSI NRENs.

This *AUP* is to be ***applied and taken into consideration*** by all *Users of the BSI resources*.

It is the ***responsibility*** of the *BSI NRENs* to ensure that members of their own *User Communities* use *BSI resources* in an acceptable manner and in accordance with this *AUP*.

As far as the ***coverage*** of the involved rules and regulations are concerned, this *AUP* is to be applied in case of both national and international (GÉANT) traffic.

Concerning the ***extent*** of the *AUP*, the *BSI NRENs* may add further rules and regulations to those contained by the present *AUP*. By this way separate AUPs of the NRENs within the BSI region should be developed and approved so that these separate AUPs are compatible with the conditions expressed in this *AUP (BSI AUP)* and any additional rules and regulations mustn't contradict those ones laid down by the present *BSI AUP*.

As far as the content of such separate AUPs are concerned, they may refer to, or include, this *BSI AUP*. If any part of this *BSI AUP* is included in such a separate AUP of a NREN that must be done by ensuring that there is no misrepresentation of the intent of this *BSI AUP*.

3. Acceptable Use

Using the national networks of the *BSI NRENs* and generating *international (GÉANT) traffic* by the *BSI NRENs* so that that usage and traffic are serving the purpose of the research and education networks of the BSI NRENs is fully accepted by this *AUP*.

Any user of the *BSI resources* may use the *BSI infrastructure* and *BSI services* for the purpose of generating *R&E traffic* and *HP-R&E traffic* with other users within the *BSI user community*, and with organisations attached to networks that are reachable via networking agreements operated by *BSI*.

The use of the *BSI infrastructure* for generating *commodity traffic* is also acceptable, provided that:

- a. such traffic is approved by the managing bodies of the *BSI Consortium*,
- b. provisions for such commodity traffic are duly made by the *BSI Consortium* and the related *BSI NRENs*,
- c. such traffic is agreed by the related user communities outside the *BSI Consortium*, especially by the *GÉANT2 Consortium*.

The above basic principles about *commodity traffic* indirectly involve the fact that using the national networks of the *BSI NRENs* and generating *international (GÉANT) traffic* by the *BSI NRENs* for private purposes (e.g. by generating private e-mail traffic) is also accepted. However, this acceptance also assumes that this kind of usage doesn't fall into the category of *commercial traffic*.

Within the above limitations, the usage of the national networks of the *BSI NRENs*, as well as the generation of *international (GÉANT) traffic* by the *BSI NRENs* are accepted for any applications but for those prohibited by Section 4 "Unacceptable use" of this document.

Those users accessing any other network through the *BSI infrastructure*, by exploiting the services of such other service provider, should also take into consideration the *AUP* of those accessed networks.

Subject to the following paragraphs, *BSI resources* may be used for any legally acceptable and correct activity that is in furtherance of the purpose of BSI and of the aims and policies of the *BSI user communities*.

4. Unacceptable Use

It is not permitted to practice business over the *BSI infrastructure*. This applies to all *BSI NRENs* and includes selling products, services or bandwidth and advertising.

It is not permitted to use the *BSI infrastructure* for *commercial traffic*, i.e. to transfer data, both the originator and the receiver of which are commercial institutions or non-eligible networks or their foreign counterparts.

The *BSI infrastructure* must not be used for any of the following:

- Activities being in contradiction with the law of the country of the related *BSI NREN*, including, among others, the following types of activities: hurting the personal rights of anybody else; activities aiming at collecting forbidden income; hurting intellectual rights; consciously illegal distribution of software.
- Transit traffic between users not belonging to the *BSI user community*;
- Activities contradicting the rules and regulations of any national, foreign or international networks being connected to the *BSI infrastructure*, provided that these activities do affect these networks;
- Forwarding services of the *BSI infrastructure* towards users outside the *BSI user community*;
- Direct commercial activities for profit making, including any kinds of advertising material either to other users, or to organisations connected to *BSI infrastructure* or any *BSI NRENs*;
- Any activity hurting or disturbing anybody else, e.g. hurting the religious, ethnic, political or any other kinds of beliefs, characteristics, opinions, feelings, etc. of any other users of the *BSI infrastructure*;
- Disturbing or obstructing, without any established reason, and in more than a minor extent, the work of any other users (e.g. spamming);
- Extensive utilisation of *BSI resources* for private purposes;
- The creation or transmission (other than for properly supervised and lawful research purposes) of any offensive, obscene or indecent images, data or other material, or any data capable of being resolved into obscene or indecent images or material;
- The creation or transmission of material that is designed or likely to cause annoyance, inconvenience or needless anxiety;
- The creation or transmission of defamatory material;
- The transmission of material such that this infringes the copyright of another person;
- Deliberate unauthorised access to facilities or services accessible via the *BSI infrastructure*.

Deliberate activities with any of the following characteristics are also prohibited:

- Activities disturbing or threatening normal operation of the *BSI infrastructure*;
- Wasting staff effort or networked resources, including time on end systems accessible via the *BSI infrastructure* and the effort of staff involved in the support of those systems;
- Illegal accessing and/or illegal exploitation of *BSI resources* or any information accessible through the network;
- Dissemination of any information or software being dangerous to the safety and security of the *BSI infrastructure*;

- Any activity towards illegal alteration, damage or destroying *BSI resources* or any information accessible through the *BSI infrastructure*;
- Corrupting or destroying other users' data;
- Violating the privacy of other users;
- Disrupting the work of other users;
- Any activity utilising the network so that it causes extensive traffic burden to the infrastructure, without any well established reason to such an extensive traffic level;
- Using the *BSI infrastructure* in a way that denies service to other users (for example, deliberate or reckless overloading of access links or of switching equipment);
- Continuing to use an item of networking software or hardware after the managing bodies of the *BSI Consortium* have requested that use cease because it is causing disruption to the correct functioning of the *BSI infrastructure*;
- Other misuse of the *BSI infrastructure* or networked resources, such as the introduction of "viruses".

5. Compliance

It is the responsibility of the *BSI NRENs* to take all reasonable steps to ensure compliance with the conditions set out in this *AUP*, and to ensure that unacceptable use of the *BSI infrastructure* and resources does not occur.

The managing bodies of the *BSI Consortium* intend to avoid any such activities that may cause harm or damage to the *BSI infrastructure* and/or the *BSI users*, and to minimise the consequences of such harmful actions. Moreover, the managing bodies of the *BSI Consortium* intend to prevent the access by non-authenticated users to confidential information that is communicated or accessible through the network. However, the management bodies of the *BSI Consortium* can't take liability with respect to any eventual such harm or damage due to the lack of satisfactory technical means. Thus the *BSI users* should store and/or transmit information through the network by taking into consideration the limited security available.

In case of violation of the *AUP*, the managing bodies of the *BSI Consortium* have the right, after proper formal warning, to suspend the connection of the offending network, until the latter conforms to the rules.

Conscious, intentional and/or major violation of the *AUP* regulations shall be sanctioned by temporary or final disqualification of the related user(s) that means exclusion from the *BSI infrastructure*. In case of minor violation or in case of unconsciousness, the related user is to be warned and informed about the *AUP* rules and regulations. If after such a warning a repeated violation follows, this should be considered an intentional or malicious violation.

In case of any suspicion of violations to the *AUP* regulations, if necessary, the managing bodies of the *BSI Consortium* should turn, through the *BSI NRENs*, to the involved user organisation, by asking them to investigate the issue and to take any necessary action. In investigating the eventual problems, the managing bodies of the *BSI Consortium* and the management organisations of the related *NRENs* shall co-operate.

Where violation of these conditions is illegal, or results in loss or damage to the *BSI resources* or the resources of a *BSI NREN* or any other users outside the *BSI user communities*, the matter may be referred for legal action. If necessary, the managing bodies of the *BSI Consortium* may initiate such legal actions.

In case of any doubts or debates, the *BSI Consortium* and its managing bodies should advise on the related aspects as and where necessary.

6. Suggestions and Recommendations

It is recommended that each *BSI NREN* being connected to the *BSI infrastructure* and each user organisation being connected to a *BSI NREN* is preparing their own *AUP*, in harmony with the present *BSI AUP*. The *NREN AUPs* and the local *AUPs* may contain parts of this *AUP* or may even contain the full text of it, but those parts coming from the *BSI AUP* should be clearly identifiable.

It's advisable that the NREN AUPs and the local AUPs contain, among others, the following elements, if they apply:

1. Special rules, regulations and constraints stemming from the characteristics, especially bandwidth, of the local network.
2. The way of controlling how the rules are taken into consideration. Names of people who will be responsible for the specific tasks belonging to the AUP matters.
3. Description of those procedures and sanctions resulting from violating the AUP rules. Actions to be taken in case of major operational problems of the network, offences to the network, or other dangerous situations.
4. Rights of the users, e.g. to
 - access an account (depending on technical possibilities);
 - keep a private home-page (depending on available resources);
 - guarantees of privacy on behalf of the network operators;
 - possibilities of asking for help against spamming;
 - get information from the network operators about eventual technical problems (system maintenance, loss of e-mails, etc.);
 - information about the ways of getting informed about the basic knowledge of how to access network services, etc.
5. Duties of the users, e.g. regular alteration of their passwords, providing information about the unnecessary accounts, prohibition of transferring the accounts, duty of getting informed about the "netiquette" and the local AUP, etc.

Accessing secure data of the users is allowed only in case of technical or security reasons. However, even in such cases the access is restricted to the minimum necessary level and there is an immediate duty of informing the related user(s) about such an unavoidable accessing. The only persons having such a right are the staff of the network management unit of the NREN/organisation. However, the information collected by such an extraordinary action, should be kept closed to the public. The only exception is when the above secret data is forwarded to those authorised persons being involved into the investigation of suspicions about violating the AUP.

7. Closing Remarks

This document can be accessed through the Internet by visiting the Web server of BSI at <http://www.blacksea-net.eu>

This *AUP* is to be regularly reviewed and to be updated in accordance with any eventual changes in the *BSI infrastructure* and *BSI resources*.

This *AUP* and its future amended texts are to be approved by the management bodies of the *BSI Consortium*.

This *AUP* in its current form has been agreed by the management bodies of the *BSI Consortium* and the directors of the BSI NRENS.