



# Liberty Enumeration Registry Governance

Version: 1.1

## **Editors:**

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## **Abstract:**

Several of the Liberty specifications make use of identifiers that consist of constants and other well-known values. For example, in the Liberty ID-SIS Personal Profile Specification [[LibertyIDPP](#)], we define a list of messaging technologies (fax, email, icq to name a few). It is conceivable that we would need to add further items to such lists over time. To ensure interoperability between implementations, it may be necessary to maintain central registries of these, and similar enumerated values.

In order for Liberty to manage such registries prudently, guidelines are needed that describe the conditions under which new values can be assigned. This document discusses issues that should be considered in formulating a policy for assigning values to a registry and provides guidelines to document authors on the specific text that must be included in Liberty documents.

**Filename:** liberty-enumeration-registry-1.1.pdf

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## 41 1. Introduction

42 Some Liberty protocols make use of XML schema elements and attributes that contain enumerations of values, such  
43 as the `MsgTechnology` attribute in the Liberty Personal Profile ([\[LibertyIDPP\]](#)). Even after a protocol has been  
44 defined and deployment has begun, new values may need to be assigned (for example, a new messaging technology).  
45 To ensure that such fields have consistent values and interpretations in different implementations, their assignment  
46 should be administered by a central authority. For Liberty protocols, that assignment is administered by the Liberty  
47 Enumeration Registry.

48 In this document, we call the set of possible values for such a field an enumeration; the set may contain URIs, strings,  
49 or other kinds of values.

50 Not all enumerations require centralized administration. Only enumerations whose values are required to be set for  
51 interoperability between implementations will be administered by the Liberty Enumeration Registry.

52 This document uses the terms 'MUST', 'SHOULD' and 'MAY', and their negatives, in the way described in  
53 [\[RFC2119\]](#).

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## 54 **2. Issues To Consider**

### 55 **2.1. Reasons for central administration of an enumerated value**

56 Not every enumeration of values need be controlled by Liberty. If a particular set of values is specified, and these  
57 must be supported for interoperability, then the specification **MUST** state this. That alone is not enough to indicate  
58 that the enumeration must be administered centrally. If, however, such a list of values is likely to grow, and other  
59 values may be added to the enumeration that should be interpreted similarly by all implementations conforming to the  
60 specification, this would indicate that the enumeration should be administered centrally. There may be other reasons  
61 that indicate central administration of a list of values. Any such reasons **MUST** be clearly stated when registering a  
62 new enumeration.

### 63 **2.2. Submissions review process**

64 The author of an enumeration registration should submit an email containing the information noted below in [Section 5](#)  
65 to the email address noted below in [Section 7](#) .

66 The registration will undergo a review period of 4 weeks during which time the registration will be examined by a  
67 sub-group of the Technology Expert Group (TEG). Such a group may invite an acknowledged expert to review and  
68 comment on the registration, or open up the registration to comments from the full TEG.

69 Should registration of the enumeration succeed, the enumeration will be listed on the Liberty Alliance website (see  
70 [Section 7](#) ). If, however, the registration is denied, the author of the registration **MAY** appeal the decision, providing  
71 any additional supporting information that would aid the decision process.

72 If the submission is for the update of an existing registry with a new value, then a similar (but hopefully shorter) review  
73 period may be necessary

## 74 **3. Registration maintenance**

### 75 **3.1. Updating the Registration Details**

76 Registrations are requests for centrally-registered and maintained enumerations, including the related information  
77 needed to evaluate and document the request. Even after a value has been assigned, some types of registrations contain  
78 additional information that may be updated over time. Example information can include point of contact information,  
79 security issues, pointers to updates, literature references, etc. In such cases, the document must clearly state who is  
80 responsible for maintaining and updating a registration. It is appropriate to:

- 81 • Let the specification author update the registration, subject to the same constraints and review as with new  
82 registrations.
- 83 • Allow some mechanism to attach comments to the registration, for cases where others have significant objections  
84 to claims in a registration, but the author does not agree to change the registration.
- 85 • Designate Liberty or another authority as having the right to reassign ownership of a registration. This is mainly  
86 to get around the problem of some registration owner being unreachable to make necessary updates.

### 87 **3.2. Adding New Values to the Enumeration**

88 If a new value should be added to the enumeration, then the requestor should submit an email to [Section 7](#) , stating  
89 clearly the name of the enumeration that is being updated, and details about the new value or values as noted below in  
90 [Section 6](#).

---

## 91 4. What To Put In Documents

92 The previous sections presented some issues that should be considered in formulating a policy for assigning enumer-  
93 ated values and other protocol constants. It is the specification author's job to formulate an appropriate policy and  
94 specify it. In some cases, having a "Liberty Enumeration Considerations" section may be appropriate.

95 Documents that create an enumeration (or modify an existing enumeration) and that expect Liberty to play a role in  
96 maintaining that list (e.g., serving as a repository for registered values) **MUST** document the process through which  
97 future assignments to that enumeration are made. Such a section **SHOULD** state clearly that Liberty is the central  
98 authority for the values allowed in the enumeration, and provide a reference to this document for the general process  
99 in assigning new values to a registered enumeration.

100 If a centrally maintained registry is used for such an enumeration, then it **MUST** be noted in the specification that the  
101 specification itself is not the normative reference for the correct and current list of values in the enumeration.

102 The specification **MUST** provide a name identifying the enumeration, which, in conjunction with this document will  
103 specify the location of the currently approved enumeration of values.

104 Any Liberty specification requesting the creation and administration of an enumeration registration **MUST** contain a  
105 section entitled *Liberty Enumeration Considerations*

106 The following text **MUST** be included in this section:

107         This specification contains an enumeration of values that is centrally administered by the Liberty  
108         Alliance Project. Although this document may contain an initial enumeration of approved values,  
109         implementors of the specification **MUST** implement the list of values whose location is currently  
110         specified in [LibertyReg] according to any relevant processing rules in both this specification and  
111         [LibertyReg].

112 Any Liberty specification requesting the creation and administration of an enumeration registration **MUST** contain a  
113 bibliographic entry for [LibertyReg], referring to this document.

114 Sample Docbook XML that will meet this requirement is shown below:

115 `<bibliomixed id="LibertyReg"/>`

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## 116 **5. Information required to register an enumeration**

### 117 Name

118 The XML Schema ([XML](#)) name for the element that contains the enumeration.

### 119 Description

120 A textual description of this element.

### 121 Initial list of values,

122 A simple list of the values that should appear in the initial enumeration.

### 123 Format

124 Are these strings, URIs, integers or something else?

### 125 Specification(s) defining this field and enumeration

126 A reference to the Liberty specification that defines this enumeration

### 127 Reasoning for central administration

128 What considerations should be used to determine whether this enumeration requires central administration?

129 For example, does interoperability between Liberty implementations depend on them similarly interpreting  
130 values from this enumeration? Will this enumeration grow more quickly than we will release new versions  
131 of this specification?

### 132 Requestor

133 Name and contact details of the individual requesting this registration. This section **MUST** contain at  
134 minimum, a name and email address, and **SHOULD** contain a contact telephone number.

### 135 Owner for updates

136 Name and contact details of the individual responsible for updates to this registration (if the requestor is not  
137 also the owner). This section **MUST** contain at minimum, a name and email address, and **SHOULD** contain  
138 a contact telephone number.

### 139 Comments

140 Any additional comments or information about the registration request

### 141 Note:

142 It may also be helpful for the requestor to submit the XML schema fragment that defines the field and its enumeration.

---

## 143 **6. Modifying registrations**

144 Occasionally, it may be necessary to change registration details, or to request the addition of new values to the  
145 enumeration. In such a case the following information should be submitted to [Section 7](#) :

146 **Name**

147           The XML Schema ([XML](#)) name for the element that contains the enumeration.

148 **Requestor**

149           Name and contact details of the individual requesting this change. This section **MUST** contain at minimum,  
150           a name and email address, and **SHOULD** contain a contact telephone number.

151 **Description of change**

152           A textual description of the required change.

153 **Comments**

154           Comments on the change, or general comments about the registration.

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155 **7. Accessing the registries**

156 <http://www.projectliberty.org/registries> will contain the current list of registries.

157 Registrations, and changes to existing registrations MUST be sent to [registrations@projectliberty.org](mailto:registrations@projectliberty.org).

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# 158 References

## 159 Normative

160 [RFC2119] Bradner, S., eds. "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels," RFC 2119, The Internet  
161 Engineering Task Force (March 1997). <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2119.txt> [March 1997].

## 162 Informative

163 [LibertyIDPP] Kellomaki, Sampo, eds. "Liberty Identity Personal Profile Service Specification," Version 1.0, Liberty  
164 Alliance Project (12 November 2003). <http://www.projectliberty.org/specs>

165 [XML] Bray, Tim, Paoli, Jean, Sperberg-McQueen, C.M., Maler, Eve, eds. (Oct 2000). "Extensible  
166 Markup Language (XML) 1.0 (Second Edition)," Recommendation, World Wide Web Consortium  
167 <http://www.w3.org/TR/2000/REC-xml-20001006>

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## 168 **A. Sample Registration (non-normative)**

169 Name:  
170  
171 script  
172  
173 Description:  
174  
175 Defines a language writing system (for example Japanese Kanji)  
176  
177 Initial list of values:  
178  
179 urn:liberty:dst:script:kana  
180 urn:liberty:dst:script:kanji  
181  
182 Format:  
183  
184 anyURI  
185  
186 Specification(s)  
187  
188 Liberty ID-WSF Data Services Template Specification, Kainulainen, Jukka, eds. Version 1.0  
189  
190 Reasoning:  
191  
192 N/A  
193  
194 Requestor:  
195  
196 Jukka Kainulainen (jukka.kainulainen@nokia.com)  
197  
198 Owner for updates:  
199  
200 John Kemp (john.kemp@ieee-isto.org)  
201  
202