Enhancing Group

Management in Keycloak: A

Flexible Extension for

Dynamic Membership

Control





March 2025



- Team in Directorate of European and International Infrastructure Projects of <u>GRNET</u>
- Providing facilitating seamless access to research resources for diverse stakeholders within the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) based on Keycloak
- Researchers, academics, policy makers, funders, innovators, citizens and public actors could securely access Open Science services across infrastructures

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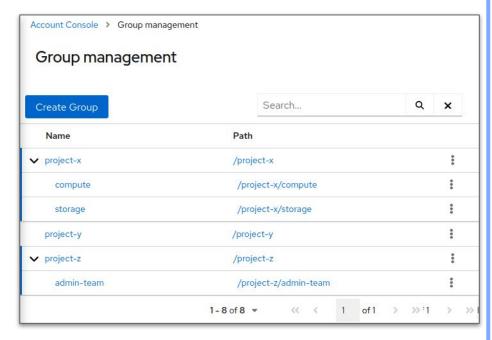


RCIAM

Enhancing Group Management in Keycloak: A Flexible Extension for Dynamic Membership Control

Introducing Advanced Group Management

- Beyond User Collections: Structured membership management for complex access
- Advanced Workflows: Tailored enrollment for precise control
- Hierarchical Organization:
 - Parent groups include subgroups
 - Expiration/suspension cascades to child memberships
- Delegated Administration: Secure, simplified group management
- Shared Access: Groups used across multiple services/resources



Group Management Features

User-driven group enrollment flows:

- Users can request membership in groups
- Accept group Terms & Conditions
- Provide comment/justification
- Optionally admin-reviewed enrollment requests

Time-based group membership:

- Automatic expiration of group membership
- Support for scheduled activation of membership

Group Admin Management Tools:

- Invite group members or admins
- Edit group details and roles
- Suspend, activate, or remove members
- Edit individual memberships

https://github.com/ rciam/keycloak-gro up-management



Group Hierarchy Management:

- Create and manage group hierarchies
- Manage memberships through top-level groups

How Advanced Group Management Transforms Keycloak

Advanced Group Management:

- Automated and user-driven workflows (requests, approvals).
- Expiration, activation, and scheduling for memberships.
- Roles in groups
- Parent-to-child cascading rules for admin actions.
- Delegated group management.
- Email notifications

Base Keycloak:

- Hierarchical groups but manual membership management.
- No expiration or time-based memberships.
- No membership suspension
- No user-driven workflows.
- Admin-centric group management only via admin console.

Group Management

Q Group Admins oversee the group and its subgroups, controlling access and structure.

Role Management

Assign and update roles to define user permissions.

•• Membership Control

- Add or remove members.
- Assign roles based on needs or requests.
- Extend memberships for continued access.
- Suspend or activate memberships as needed.

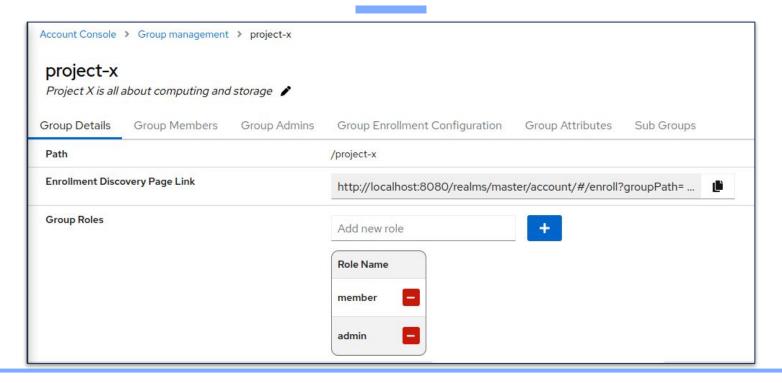
Enrollment Configuration

- Define how users can join the group.
- Manage approval settings and membership conditions.

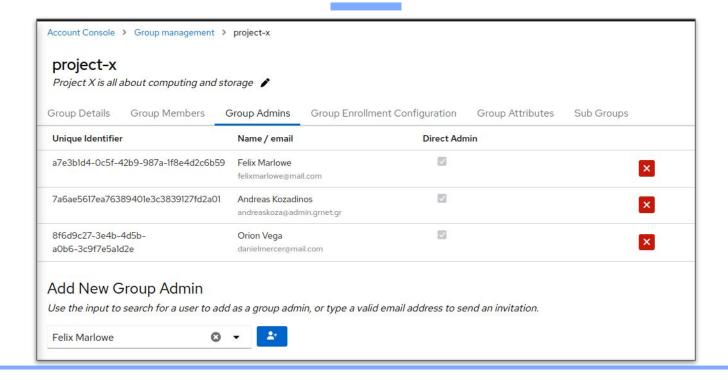
Group Structure

 Create and delete subgroups within the hierarchy

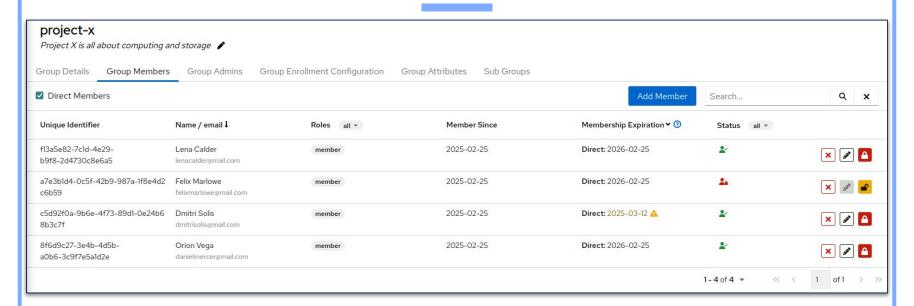
Editing group details and roles



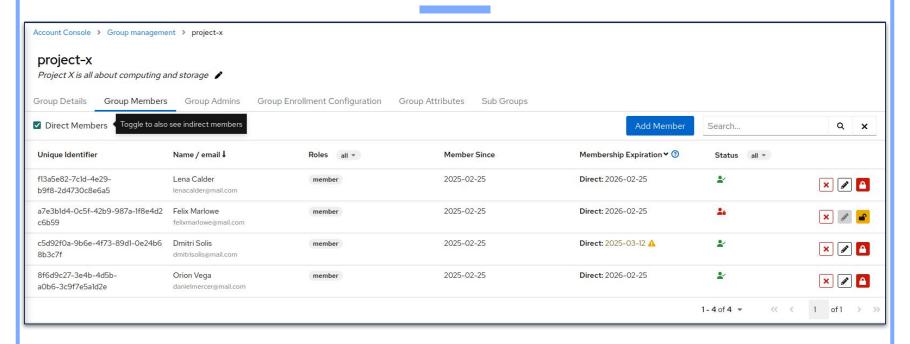
Manage Admins



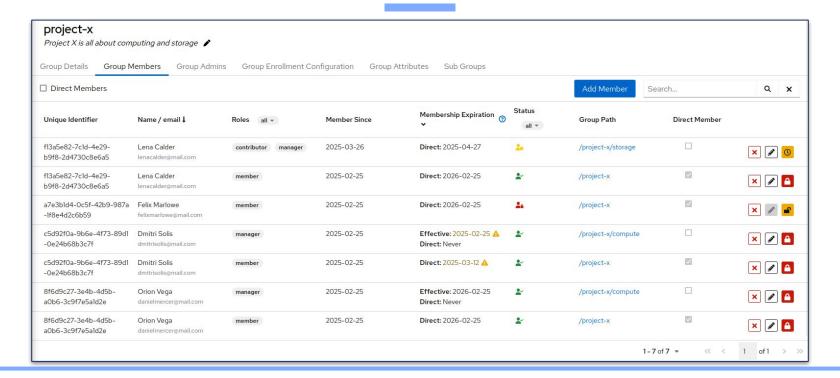
Viewing Group Members



Viewing Group Members



Viewing Indirect Group Members



Types of Membership Status

Active

Membership is active.

Suspended

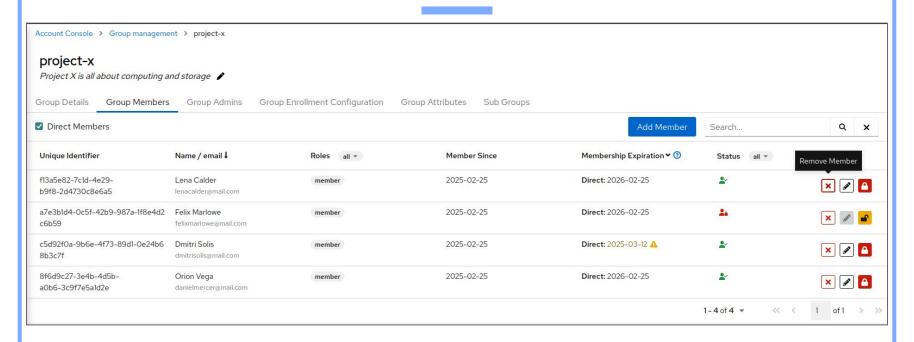
Admin-enforced restriction for security reasons. Membership is retained, but all entitlements are revoked. Can be reactivated by an admin.

Z Pending

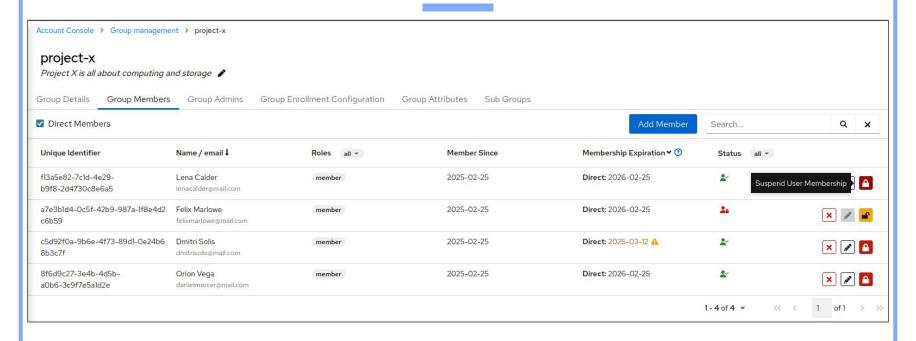
Membership is scheduled to start on a future date. Defined by the enrollment configuration. Can be manually activated by an admin.

• Suspension/Activation affects all subgroups of the target group.

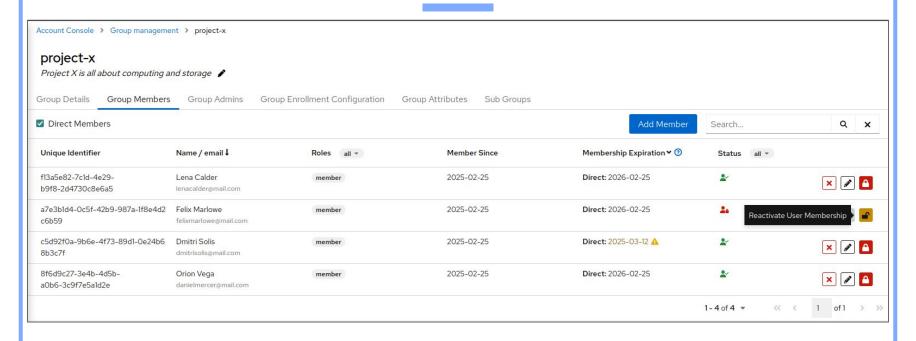
Remove Member from Group



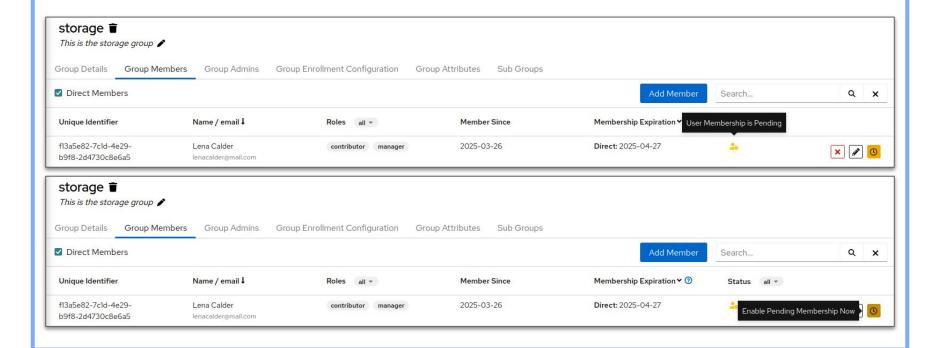
Suspend Member from Group



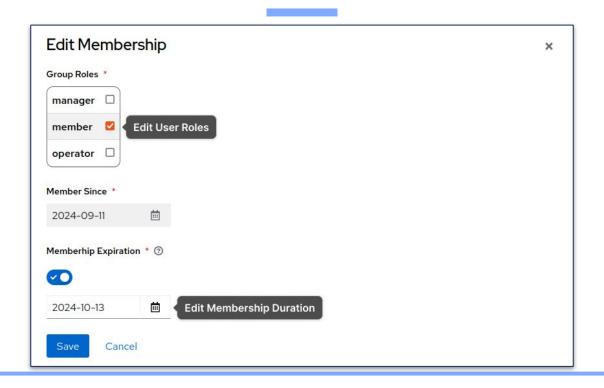
Activate Suspended Member



Activate Pending Membership



Managing Memberships



Enrollment Configuration

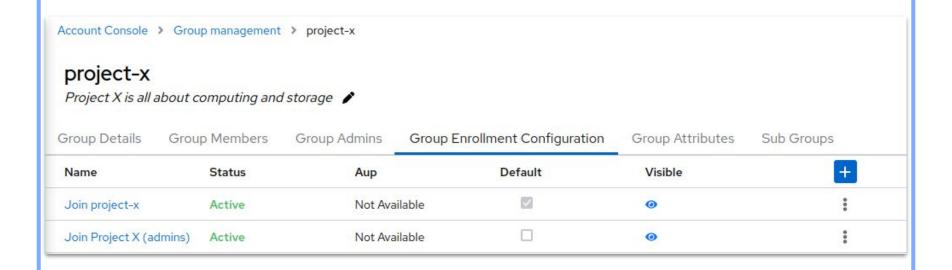
What is an Enrollment Configuration?

Managed by Group Admins, they define how new members can join a group, including the rules and options for their membership.

Key Attributes

- **Enrollment Name**: Identifies the enrollment.
- **Membership Expiration**: Sets the duration of memberships.
- **Start Date**: Schedules when memberships begin.
- Approval Required: Admin review needed for user requests.
- Roles: Defines available roles for members.
- Acceptable Use Policy (AUP): URL to the policy users must accept.
- **Visibility**: Controls if the enrollment is discoverable to users.
- Active Status: Only active enrollments can be used.

Manage Enrollment Configurations



How Can Users Join Groups?

1. Admin Invitation:

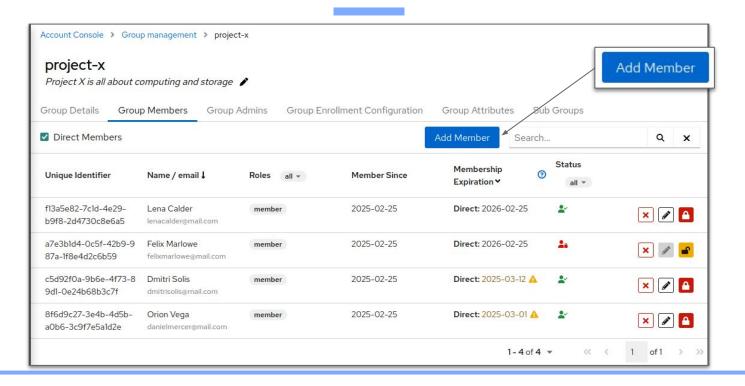
- The admin sends an invitation via email to the user.
- Admin selects the roles based on an enrollment configuration

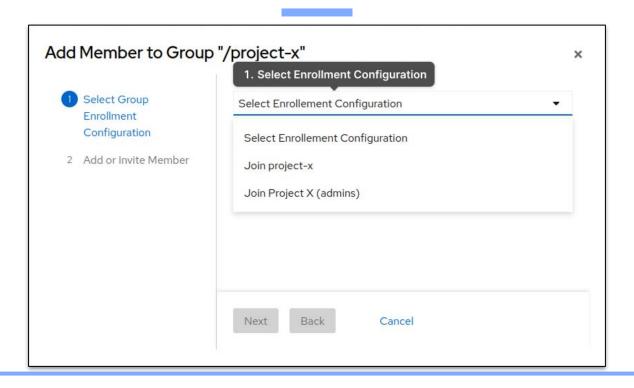
2. Direct Add:

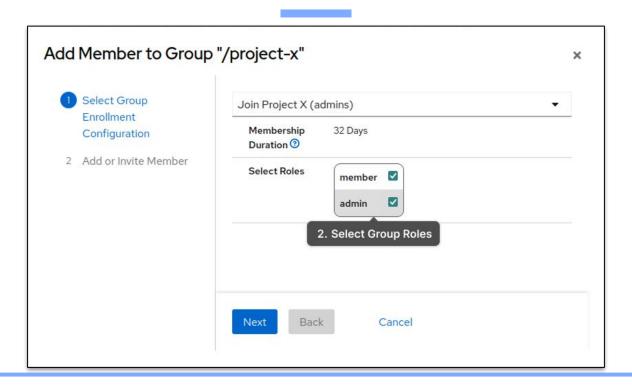
- Admin adds an existing user directly.
- Admin selects the roles based on an enrollment configuration

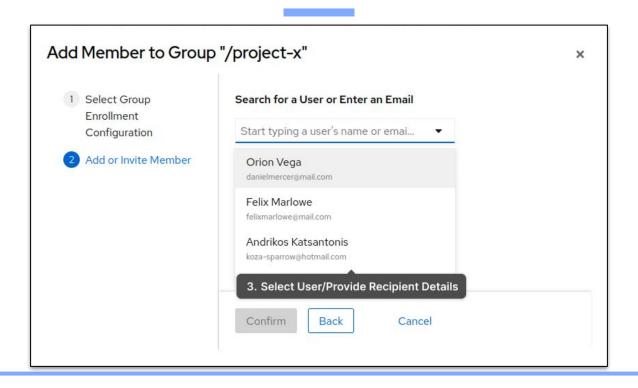
3. Enrollment Discovery Link:

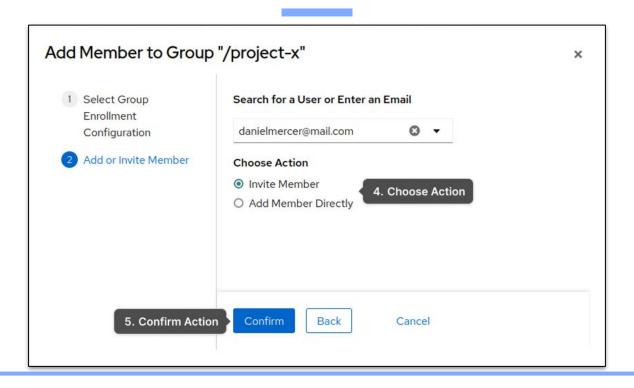
- User selects from available enrollments.
- Submit an enrollment request.
 - Approval-Based: Admin reviews the request before granting membership.
 - Automatic Acceptance: Membership is granted immediately (based on configuration).











Enrollment Discovery Page

The Enrollment Discovery Page allows users to view and choose from available enrollment flows for:

- Joining a Group
- Updating Existing Memberships

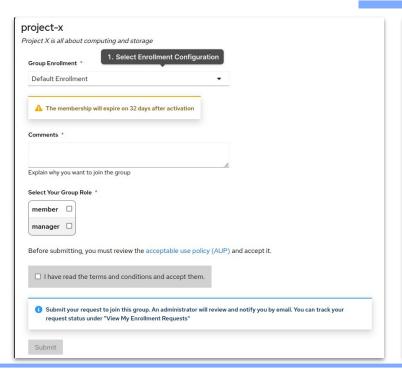
View Enrollment Options: Lists visible enrollments for the group.

Preselected Default Flow: The default enrollment flow is auto-selected.

Access via URL:

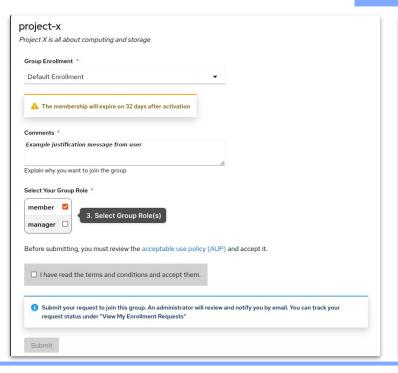
https://kc-example/account/#//enroll?groupPath=/group/path/example

Group Enrollment: Creating Enrollment Request



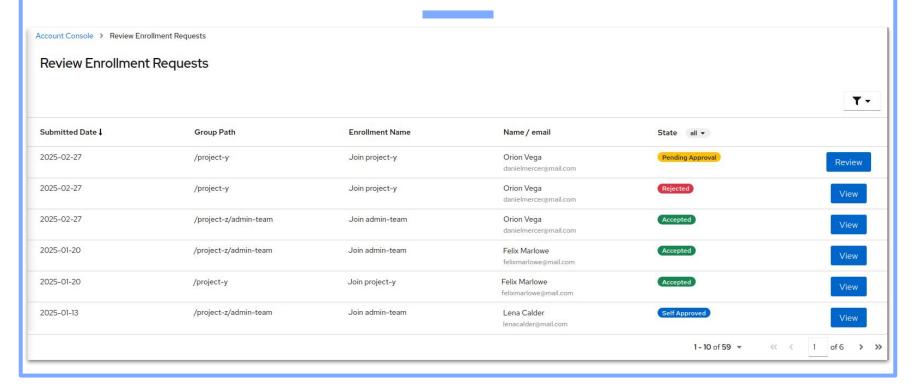
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Group Enrollm	ent *				
Default Enro	llment		•		
⚠ The men	nbership will expire on 32 day	s after activation			
Comments *	2. Provide Addition	nal Details			
Example justi	fication message from user				
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explain why you	r want to join the group				
Select Your Gr	oup Role *				
member [ב				
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188 111 128 111					
3efore submi	tting, you must review the	acceptable use policy	(AUP) and accept i	it.	
	ad the terms and condition	ns and accept them.			
☐ I have re					
	our request to join this group	The second second second second			

Group Enrollment: Creating Enrollment Request

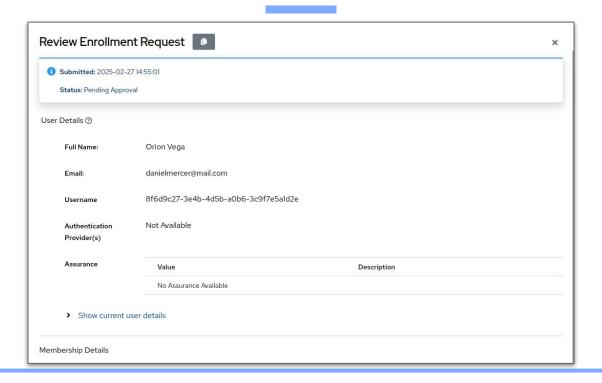


Group Enrollment	•				
Default Enrollme	ent		•		
⚠ The member	ship will expire on 32	days after activation			
Comments *					
Example justificat	ion message from us	ser			
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manager 🗆	Role *	ne acceptable use	policy (AUP) :	and accept it.	
member ✓ manager □		ne acceptable use	policy (AUP)	and accept it.	
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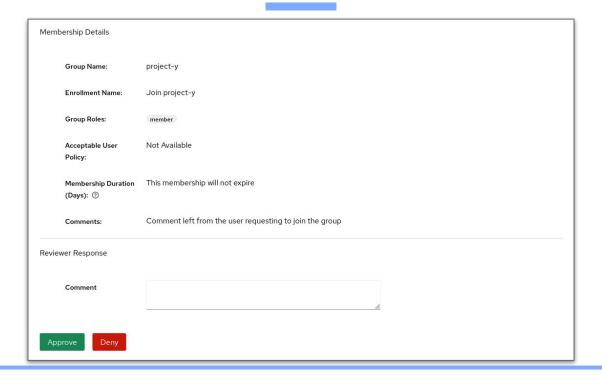
Group Enrollment: Reviewing Enrollment Requests



Group Enrollment: Reviewing Enrollment Requests



Group Enrollment: Reviewing Enrollment Requests



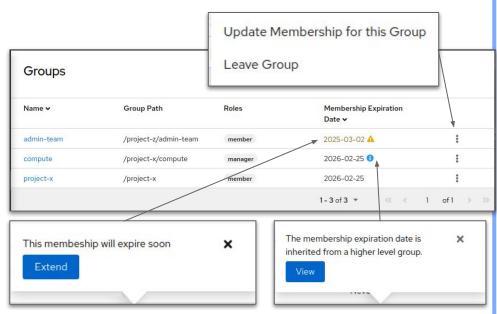
Group List View for Members

★ Group List View Displays:

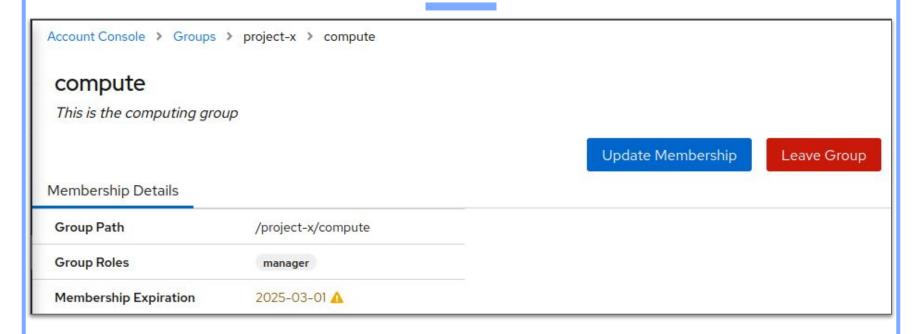
- Roles Assigned group roles
- Expiration Date Membership end date
- Expiration Warnings Alerts for upcoming expirations
- Sexpiration Dependencies Expirations due to a membership in a higher group

Actions:

- Update Membership Modify roles or extend duration though enrollment request
- Leave Group Exit the group



Group Membership View



manage-groups account role

Permissions:

- > View update all groups
- > Create top level group
- > Access to all realm users

Prohibitions:

- > Delete group
- > Manage group members
- Accept / reject enrollment request

Admin REST API

Extends Keycloak Admin REST Api. No admin theme extension.

- POST /admin/group => create top level group
- POST /admin/configuration-rules => create group enrollment configuration rule
- POST /admin/effective-expiration-date/calculation => update user group membership effective expiration date for all realms
- DELETE /admin/user/{id} => delete user
- DELETE /admin/group/{groupId} => delete group
- POST /admin/group/{groupId}/children => create child group

Group admin REST Api

REST Api for group admins and manage-groups account role

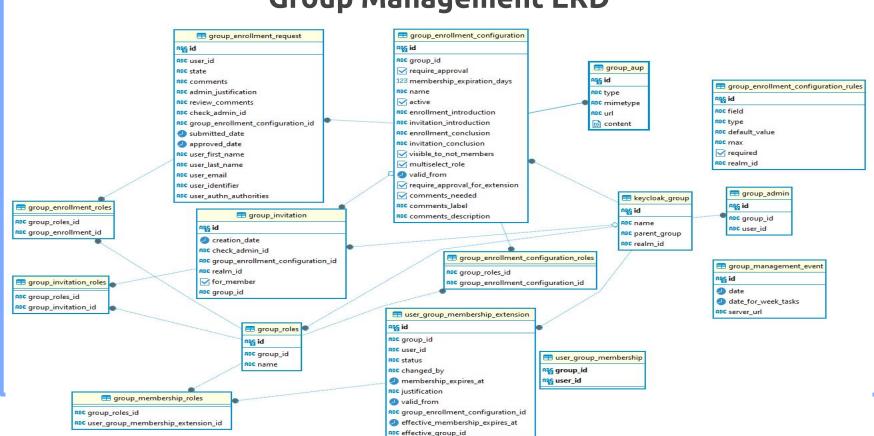
- GET /account/group-admin/groups => get all groups that this user has admin rights
- /account/group-admin/group/{groupId}/configuration/{id} => crud
 operations to enrollment configuration
- GET /account/group-admin/group/{groupId}/members => search all group members pager
- POST /account/group-admin/group/{groupId}/members/invitation
 send invitation to a user based on email
- /account/group-admin/group/{groupId}/member/{memberId}/{x}=> crud actions to member
- POST /account/group-admin/group/{groupId}/admin => add user as admin
- /account/group-admin/enroll-request/{enrollId} => crud actions to enrollment request

User REST Api

REST Api for group members

- GET /account/user/groups => get all user groups
- POST /account/user/invitation/{id}/{x} => accept/reject invitation
- GET /account/user/groups/configurations => get all available group enrollment configurations
- DELETE /account/user/group/{groupId}/member => leave user group membership
- GET /account/user/enroll-requests => get all user enrollment requests
- POST /account/user/enroll-request => create new enrollment request

Group Management ERD



Keycloak extension code

- This feature has been developed as a Keycloak extension
- Realm attributes for configuration
- Extended themes: account, email
- Email Notifications for user/admin actions
- Database & JPA Enhancements with Liquibase
- Scheduled actions (eg remove expired members)
- User events for admin / user actions

https://github.com/rciam/keycloak-group-management



Future plans

- Add to official Keycloak Extensions:
 - ★ Limitation: Extend core Keycloak only for having new group user event types (enum in Keycloak core)
 - ★ Now group membership and role entitlement => extend Group membership mapper for roles
 - ★ Based on Keycloak version 22 => Upgrade to latest 26.x.x
- Alternative: Gradually implementing functionality into the Keycloak core

Thanks!

Does anyone have any questions?

faai@grnet.gr



