

Hierarchical Governance Composition

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What It Specifies

Each authority declares its hierarchical position: parent authorities, peer authorities, child authorities. Operations under an authority admit through the authority's hierarchical position; cross-hierarchy operations compose through declared hierarchical rules.

Hierarchical composition is governance-credentialed. The hierarchical structure, the composition rules, and the resulting authority chains all enter lineage; downstream audit traverses the hierarchy structurally.

Why It Matters Structurally

Flat authority structures face structural limitations: governance complexity, lack of appropriate scope decomposition, single-authority capture risk.

Hierarchical composition produces structural decomposition. Authorities operate at appropriate scope; cross-hierarchy operations compose through declared rules; the architecture supports the structural complexity.

How It Composes With Mesh Operation

The architecture defines the hierarchical-declaration format, the composition primitives, and the cross-hierarchy operation handling. Implementations apply the architecture; hierarchical operations proceed within the framework.

Hierarchy composes with all other features. Cross-jurisdictional hierarchies, byzantine-robust hierarchical evaluation, and dispute mechanism for hierarchical disputes all build on the hierarchy primitive.

What This Enables

Defense hierarchical-authority operations gain structurally-supported composition. Civilian regulatory-hierarchy operations gain the same.

The architecture also supports hierarchy evolution. As authority structures evolve, hierarchical protocols update through governance procedures.