

Current 5G Security Standardization Overview

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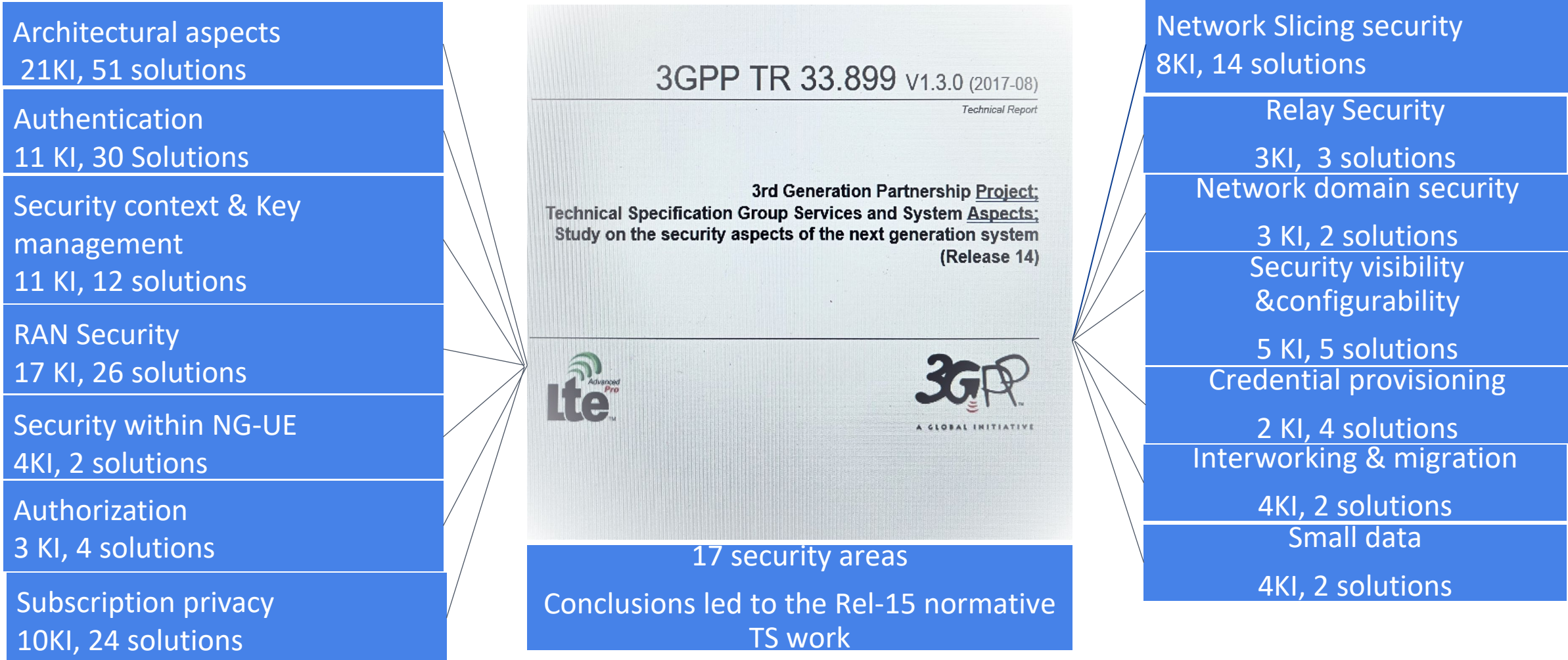
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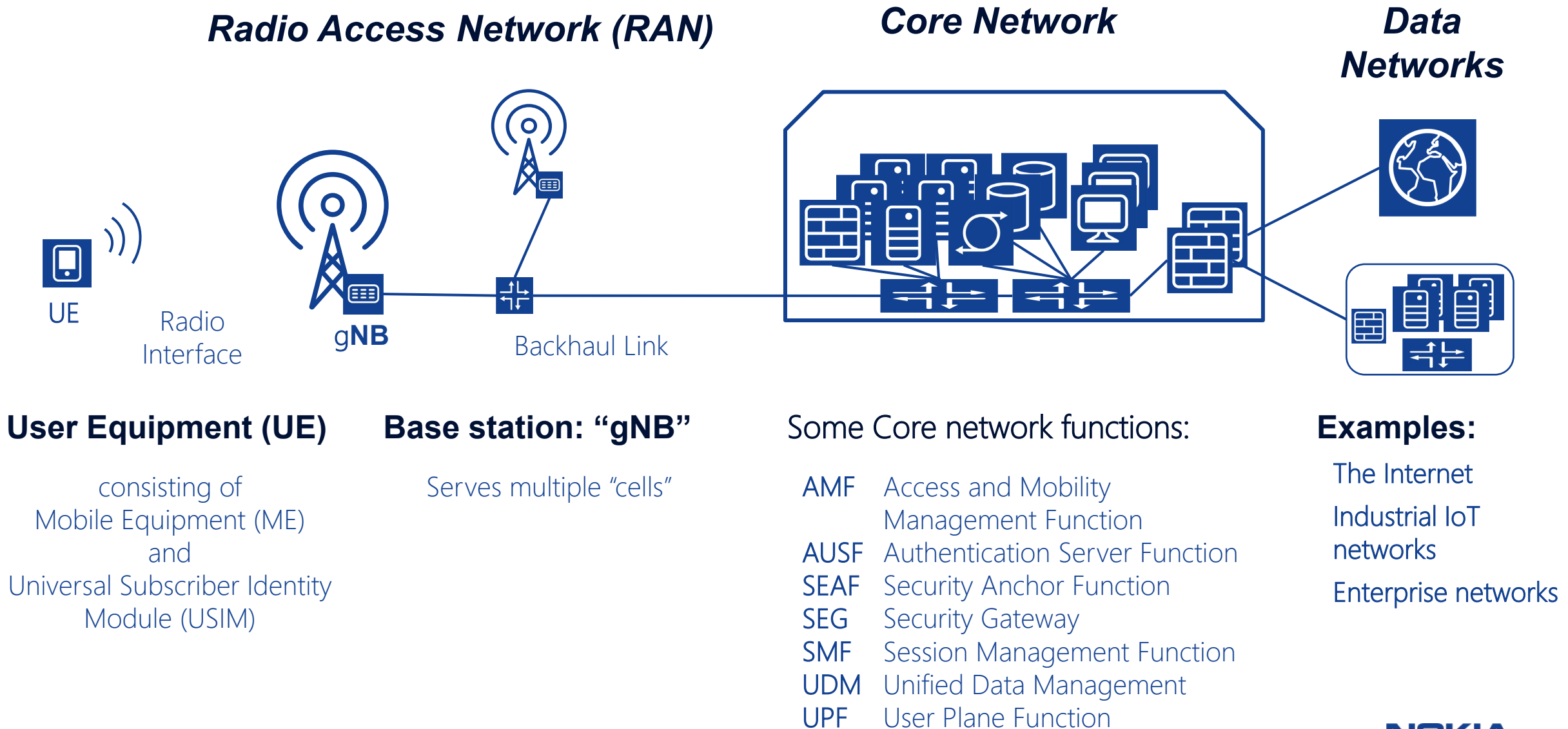
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3GPP Study on Security aspects of next Generation



Overview 5G System (5GS), aka 5G Public Land Mobile Network (5G PLMN)



5G security architecture features in Rel-15



Unified authentication framework & Access-agnostic authentication

Increased home control
(UE in SN verification)

Service based architecture & Interconnect security

Primary authentication
(Registration)

Enhanced subscriber privacy
(no IMSI catcher anymore)

5GS-EPS interworking security

Secondary authentication
(Access to ext. DN)

RAN security
(now also user plane integrity protection)

LTE-NR Dual Connectivity

Technical Specifications for security

3GPP TS 33.501
5G security

3GPP TS 33.401
LTE security

with 5G enhancements on dual connectivity)

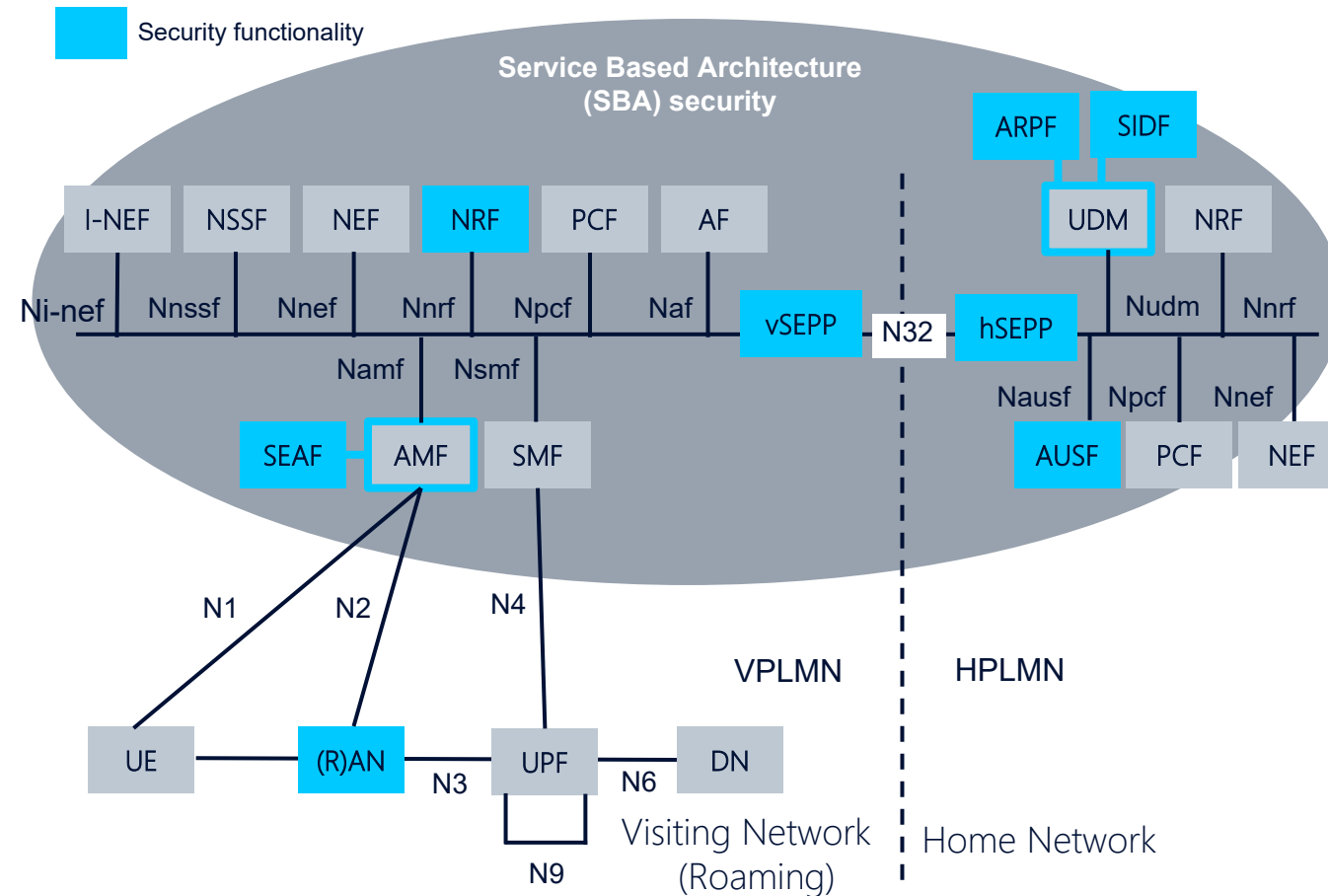
3GPP TR 33.899
(study for TS work; Refer to Annex for agreements)

3GPP security improvements with 5G



In the RAN:

- Enhanced subscriber (location) privacy: International Mobile Subscriber Identity (IMSI) encryption with Subscription Permanent Identifier (SUPI) / Subscription Concealed Identifier (SUCI)
- User plane integrity protection
- Device and network mutual authentication with the home network



In the CN:

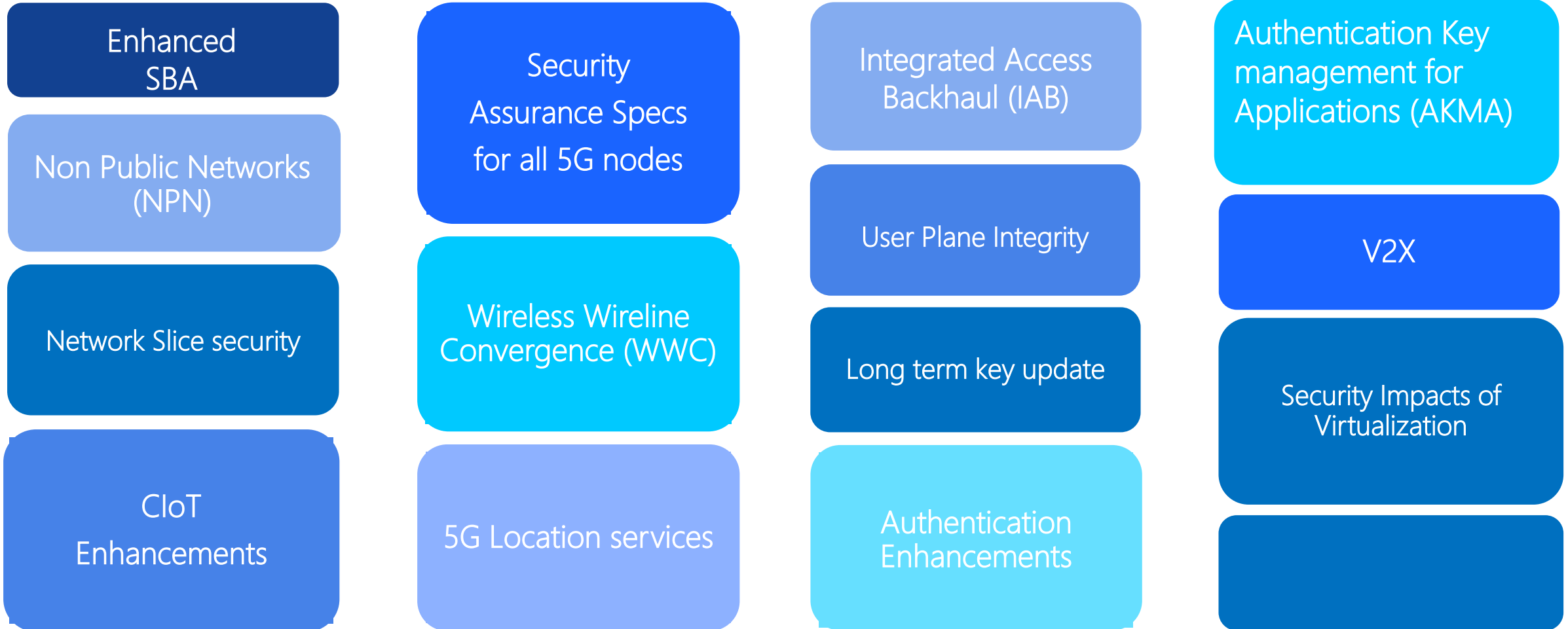
- Security for service-based interfaces
- Enhancements for interconnection security: Security Edge Protection Proxy (SEPP) for secure roaming
- Steering of Roaming

End-to-End:

- Improved signaling plane and user plane protection: Use of TLS between 5G Core functions, with option to use DTLS to protect signaling between RAN and Core
- Network slicing for traffic segmentation & Slice-specific authentication
- Security assurance specifications

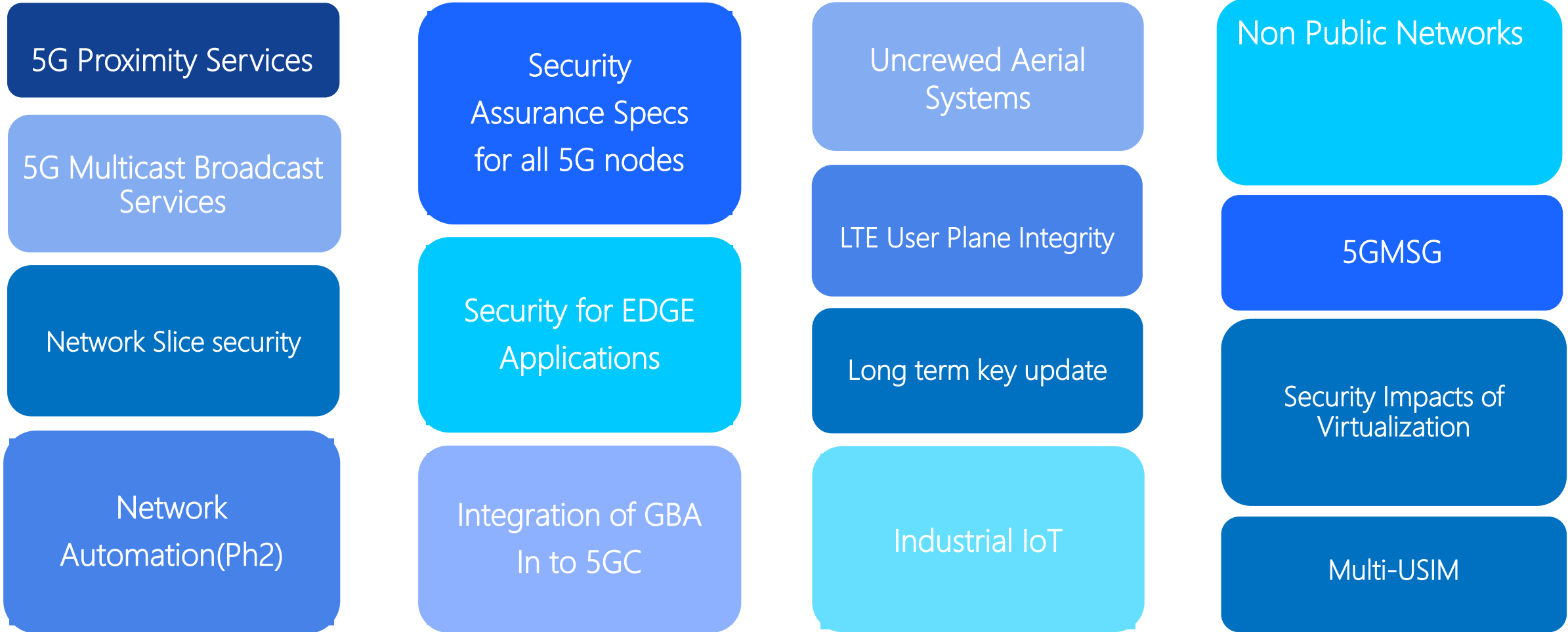
5G Rel-16 features

Annex to 3GPP TS 33.501 or independent TS



5G Rel-17 features

Annex to 3GPP TS 33.501 or independent TS



Rel-18 Studies and normative work



Study on 5G security enhancement against false base stations

Study on Security Impacts of Virtualisation

Study on Security Aspects of Proximity Based Services in 5GS Phase 2

Study on privacy of identifiers over radio access

Study on Standardising Automated Certificate Management in SBA

New SID on AKMA phase 2

Study of Security aspect of home network triggered primary authentication

Study on security aspects of enablers for Network Automation for 5G – phase 3

Study on Security Enhancement of support for Edge Computing — phase 2

Study on Personal IoT Networks Security Aspects

Study on SNAAPP security

Study on enhanced security for network slicing Phase 3

Study on Security aspects for 5WWC Phase 2

Study on the security aspects of Artificial Intelligence (AI)/Machine Learning (ML) for the NG-RAN

Study on security support for Next Generation Real Time Communication services

Study on security aspects of enhanced support of Non-Public Networks phase 2

Study on Security of Phase 2 for UAS, UAV and UAM

Study to enable URSP rules to securely identify Applications

Study on Security Aspects of Ranging Based Services and Sidelink Positioning

Study on Security and Privacy of AI/ML-based Services and Applications in 5G

Study on applicability of the Zero Trust Security principles in mobile networks

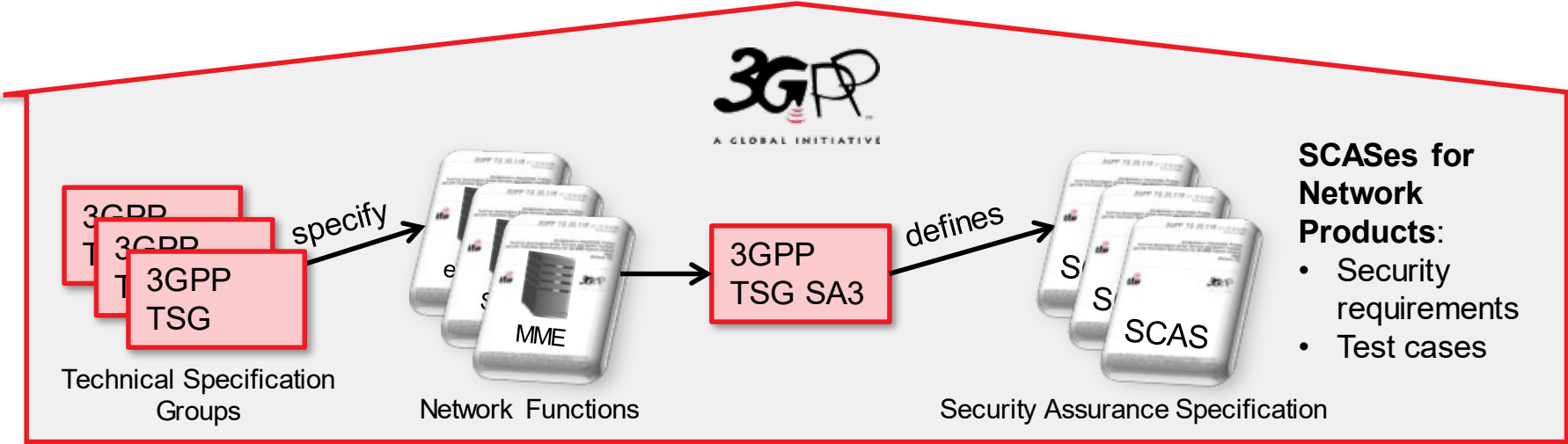
Study of Security aspects on User Consent for 3GPP Services Phase 2

Study on security enhancements for 5G multicast-broadcast services Phase 2

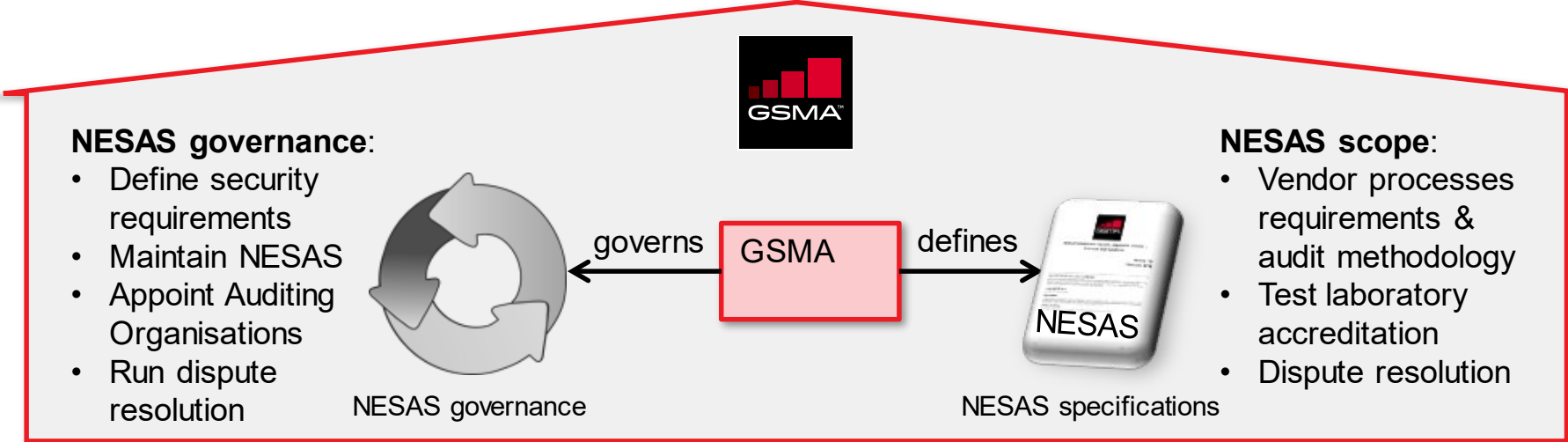
Study on enhanced Security Aspects of the 5G Service Based Architecture

Study on Security Aspects of Satellite Access

3GPP SCAS: Roles of GSMA and 3GPP in NESAS



SA3 has defined SCAS test for all 5G NFs



Year after year security breach of enterprises get published, but there is actually no incident of cracking 3GPP authentication protocols.

Famous loot of IMSIs from the vault of SIM card vendors, but that they had to do it by stealing shows the strength of the protocol. They couldn't break the LTE AKA protocol using reasonable computing power.



Multiple parties are attempting to break the security protocols defined by 3GPP/SA3.

Good and Bad,
Good: protocols, algorithm gets verified by multiple means.

Security Success of SA3

Bad : any small gap or leakage gets published with such a euphoria that operators, general public gets alarmed

Recent years, so many CVD papers have been submitted in GSMA and SA3, Are all the papers were worth publishing?

Big misses from SA3

Irrespective of these success, SA3 did miss on big issues.

1) Exposing the permanent Subscription identifier IMSI in LTE.

- When LTE was defined, this was not considered a critical security requirement, but subsequently it became a serious vulnerability.
- Without requirement, nothing moves in 3GPP.
- But why are the regulatory bodies silent, why don't they prohibit exposure of IMSI in the network?
- It is not too late to fix this if there is a collective will !

2) Lack of PWS security.

Time and again, in different countries the issue of the lack of PWS security pops up. SA3 did a study and the solutions in TR 33.968 were not agreed because of the lack of regulations.

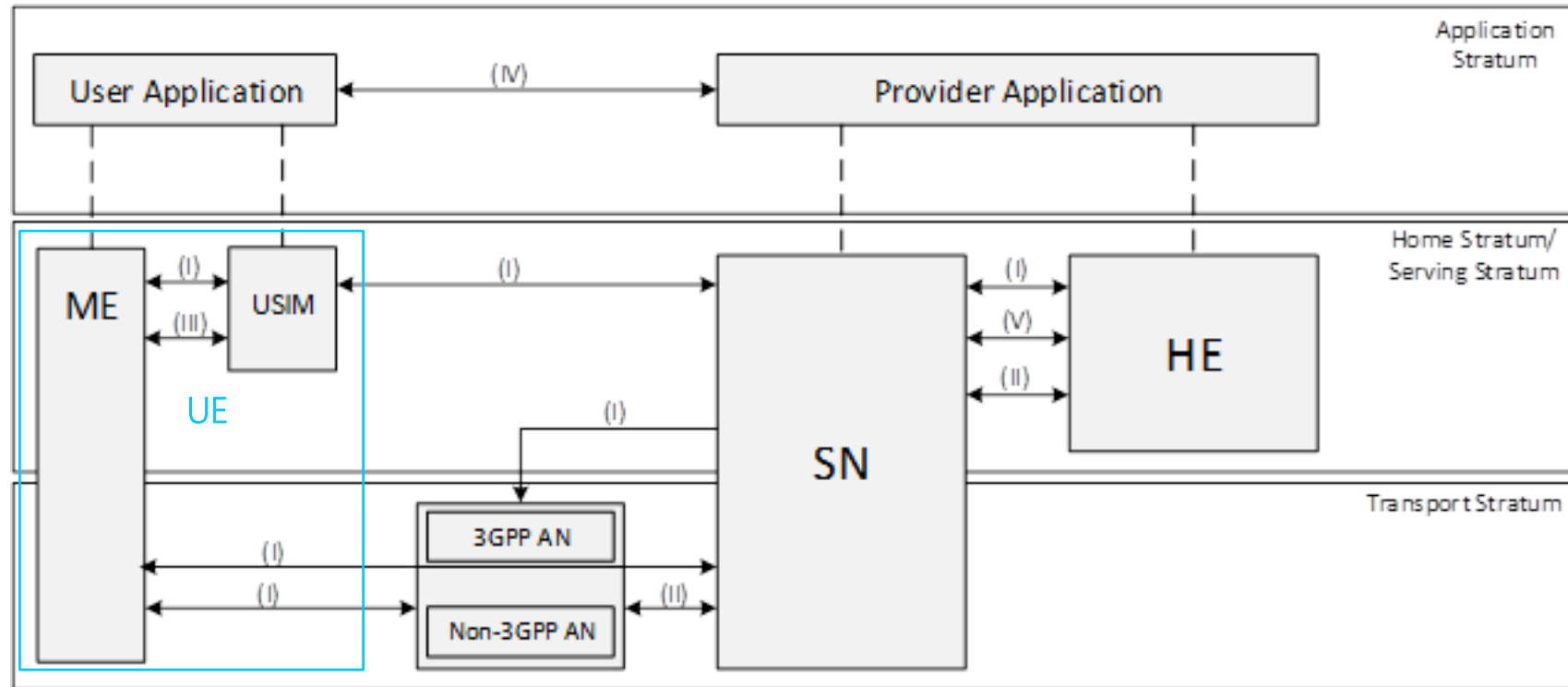
Unless multiple parties work together, good standardization doesn't happen resulting in strong secure networks !

Input from regulatory bodies: Always necessary ! Are current mechanisms sufficient?

Thanks for your attention!

Security Architecture

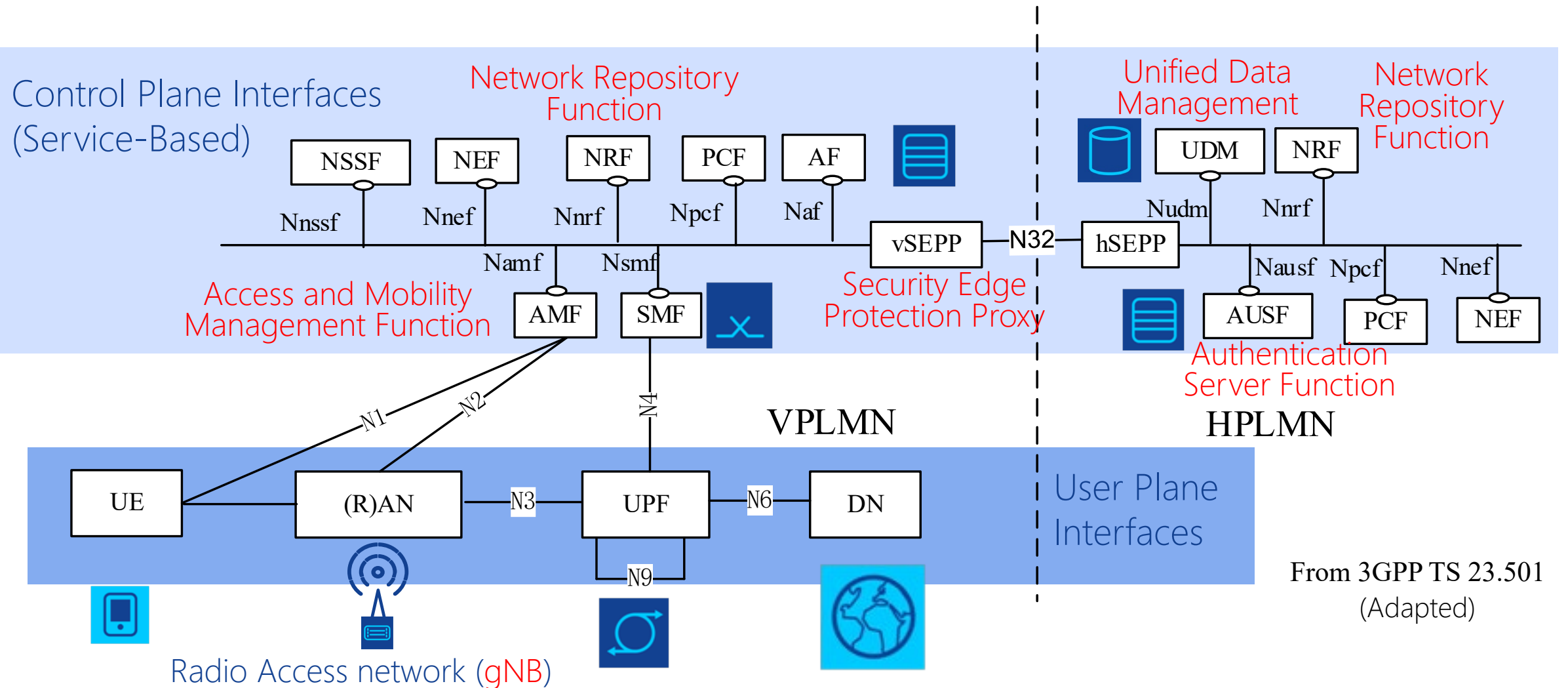
(Adapted from 3GPP TS 33.501)



- AN Access Network
- HE Home Environment
- ME Mobile Equipment
- SBA Service Based Architecture
- SN Serving Network
- USIM Universal Subscriber Identity Module
- UE User Equipment

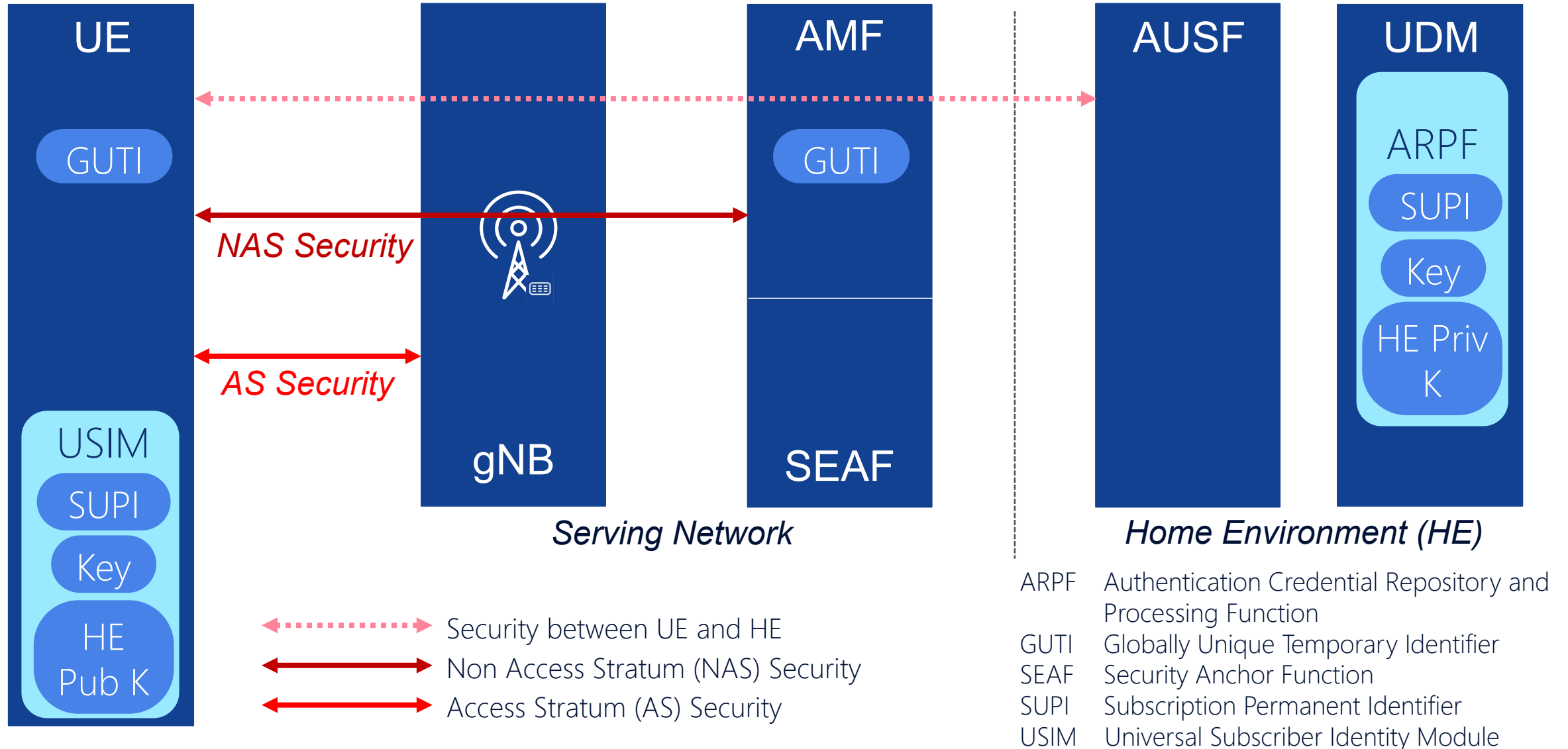
- (I) Network access security
- (II) Network domain security
- (III) User domain security
- (IV) Application domain security
- (V) SBA domain security
- (VI) Visibility and configurability of security (not shown in the figure)

Crucial Security Functions in the 3GPP 5G System



Red: Functions crucial for the security architecture

Network Access Security: Security Associations of a Connected UE



Network Access Security: AKA and NAS Security

