

3.1 Policy Assertion

A [policy assertion](#) identifies a behavior that is a requirement (or capability) of a [policy subject](#). Assertions indicate domain-specific (e.g., security, transactions) semantics and are expected to be defined in separate, domain-specific specifications.

Assertions are strongly typed by the domain authors that define them. The [policy assertion type](#) is identified only by the XML Infoset **[namespace name]** and **[local name]** properties (that is, the qualified name or QName) of the root Element Information Item representing the assertion.

[Definition: A **policy assertion type** represents a class of [policy assertions](#) and implies a schema for the assertion and assertion-specific semantics.] Assertions of a given type **MUST** be consistently interpreted independent of their [policy subjects](#).

The XML Infoset of a [policy assertion](#) MAY contain a non-empty **[attributes]** property and/or a non-empty **[children]** property. The attributes property is an assertion parameter. The children property may contain assertion parameters and/or nested assertions. [Definition: A policy assertion parameter qualifies the behavior indicated by a policy assertion.] An example assertion parameter is an attribute information item indicating how long an endpoint will wait before sending an acknowledgement, qualifying an assertion identifying support for a specific reliable messaging mechanism.

Domain authors MAY define that an assertion contains one or more parameters as its [children]. Each such parameter

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Deleted: Domain authors MAY define that an assertion contains a [policy expression](#) as one of its **[children]**. Policy expression nesting is used by domain authors to further qualify one or more specific aspects of the original assertion. For example, security policy domain authors may define an assertion describing a set of security algorithms to qualify the specific behavior of a security binding assertion.

consider when the identity of the root Element Information Item alone is enough to convey the requirement or capability.