

# Party Reference

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## Discussion

A Party Reference associates information with an existing [Party](#) without copying or replacing the authoritative information describing that Party.

A Party Reference contains or uses sufficient information to distinguish and, when applicable, resolve the referenced Party. This information may include:

- A Party [Identifier](#)
- The identifier scheme
- The assigning authority
- The scope within which the Identifier is unique
- A version or effective date
- Resolution information

The applicable Information Structure Definition determines which information the Party Reference requires.

A Party Reference remains distinct from a Party Identifier. A Party Identifier supplies a value used to distinguish a Party within a defined scope. A Party Reference uses an Identifier or another resolution mechanism to associate one information structure with the referenced Party.

A Party Reference also remains distinct from the referenced Party. Changing a Party Reference does not change the authoritative Party information unless the applicable operation explicitly modifies that information.

## Definition

*reference that identifies a [Party](#) and permits association with authoritative information about that Party*

## Source

Adapted from:

- [OMG Commons Parties and Situations Ontology](#)
  - Relevant concepts and relationships: Party, has Party, and is a Party to
  - Retrieved: 2026-10-08
- 2. [OMG Commons Identifiers Ontology](#)
  - Relevant concepts and relationships: Identifier, identifies, and is identified by
  - Retrieved: 2026-10-08

The expression *Party Reference* is defined by this corpus. The referenced sources provide the underlying Party and Identifier concepts but do not define a concept having this exact name.

## Note

- A Party Reference identifies or resolves to one Party within its applicable scope
- A Party may be the subject of multiple Party References
- Different Party References may resolve to the same Party
- A Party Reference does not duplicate the authoritative Party information
- A Party Reference does not establish the validity, authority, ownership, or legal status of the referenced Party
- A Party Reference may include an Identifier, identifier scheme, assigning authority, and resolution information
- The platform-independent definition does not require a URI, database key, object pointer, DDS key, or programming-language reference

## Example

A Person acts on behalf of Example Bank in an FX Trade.

The applicable Role Assignment contains:

- A Party Reference identifying the Person
- A Party Reference identifying Example Bank

The two Party References allow a system to distinguish the Person performing the Role from the Party represented by the Person.

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Last update: **2026/10/08 11:41**

