



**Westfälische  
Hochschule**

Gelsenkirchen Bocholt Recklinghausen  
University of Applied Sciences

# Trusted Network Connect → Process

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# Content

- **Aim and outcomes of this lecture**
- **What are the problems?**
- **TNC Process**
- **Definition of the Policies**
- **Summary**

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# TNC Process

## → Aims and outcomes of this lecture

### Aims

- To show the process of TNC
- To explore the idea of the combination of different security mechanisms
- To analyze who should define the policies

### At the end of this lecture you will be able to:

- Understand what the basic idea of network access control is
- Know something about the approach to TNC.
- Understand the need of the combination of TNC and Security Platform.

- Aim and outcomes of this lecture
- **What are the problems?**
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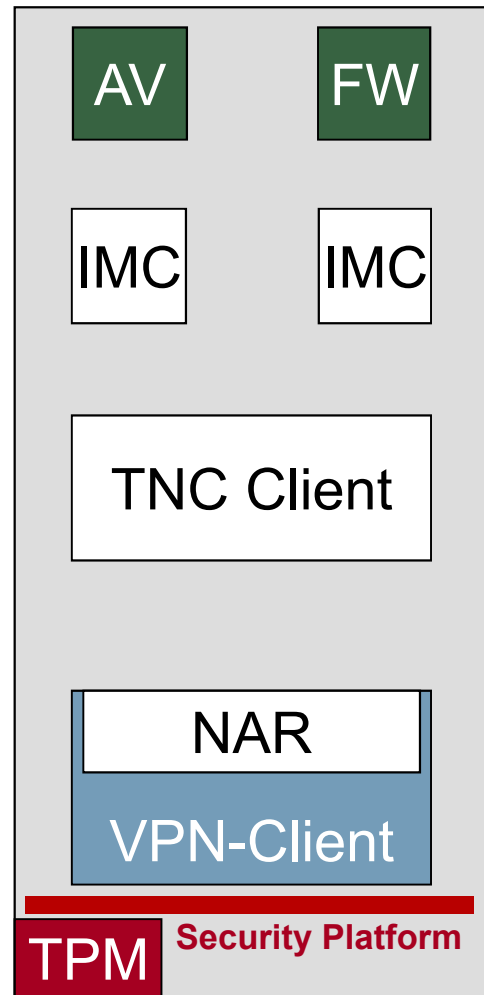
# What are the problems?

- **Field workers** use their computer systems in many environments with *various security requirements*.
- **Home workers** use their (company) PCs for *private purposes*.
- **Employees** take their *notebooks home*.
  
- **These computer systems can be compromised without control and knowledge of the company!**
  
- Therefore, we need a **Network Access Control** concept, which allows an integrity check of remote computer systems!

- Aim and outcomes of this lecture
- What are the problems?
- **TNC Process**
- Definition of the Policies
- Summary

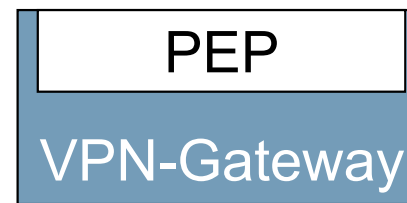
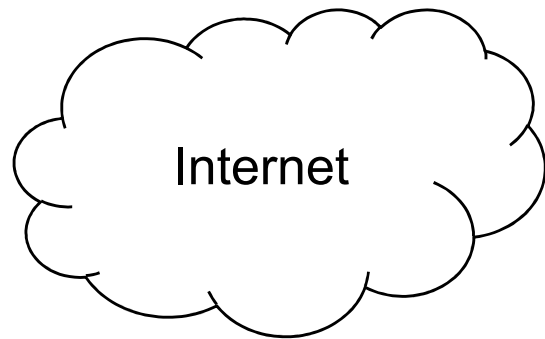
# Overview

## → Trusted Network Connect (TNC)

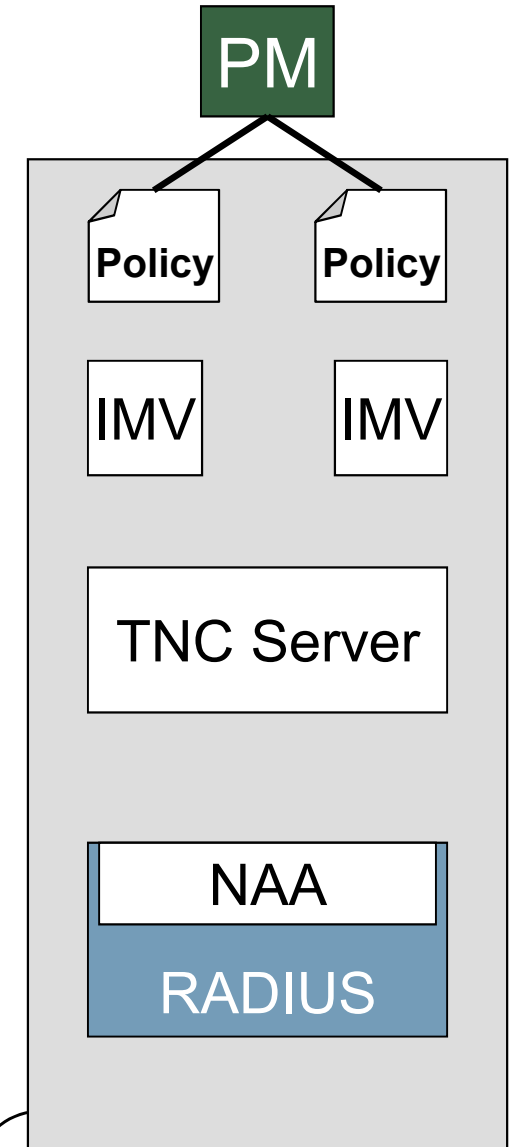


AR

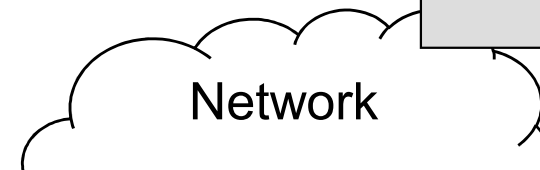
- The computer system requesting access to a network is called the **Access Requestor (AR)**.
- The **Policy Decision Point (PDP)** represents the counterpart to the Access Requestor (AR) within the corporate network.
- The **Policy Enforcement Point (PEP)** is the TNC element positioned at the entry point to the network.



PEP



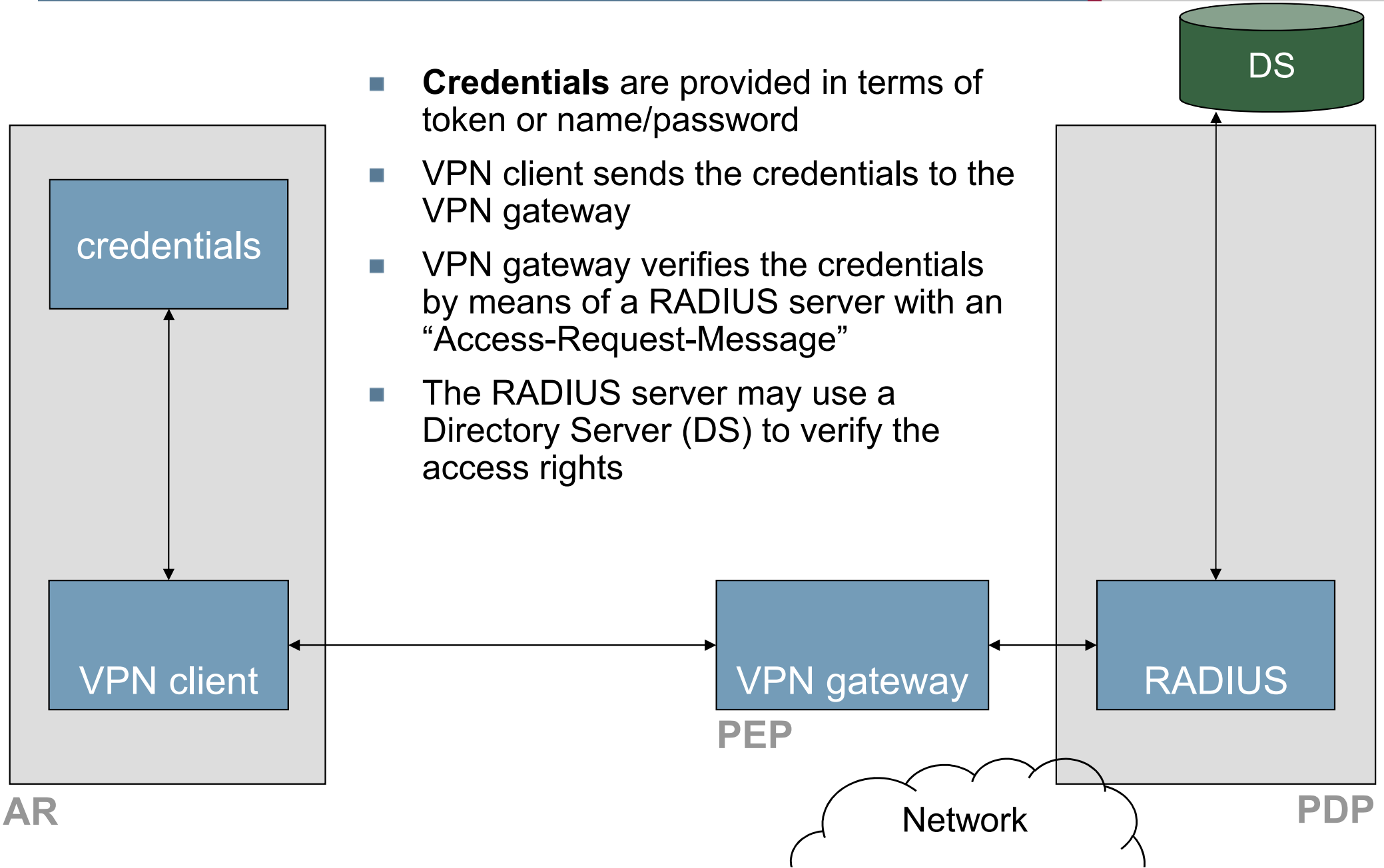
PDP





# Communication via VPN (1/6)

## → Authentication/authorization (1/3)

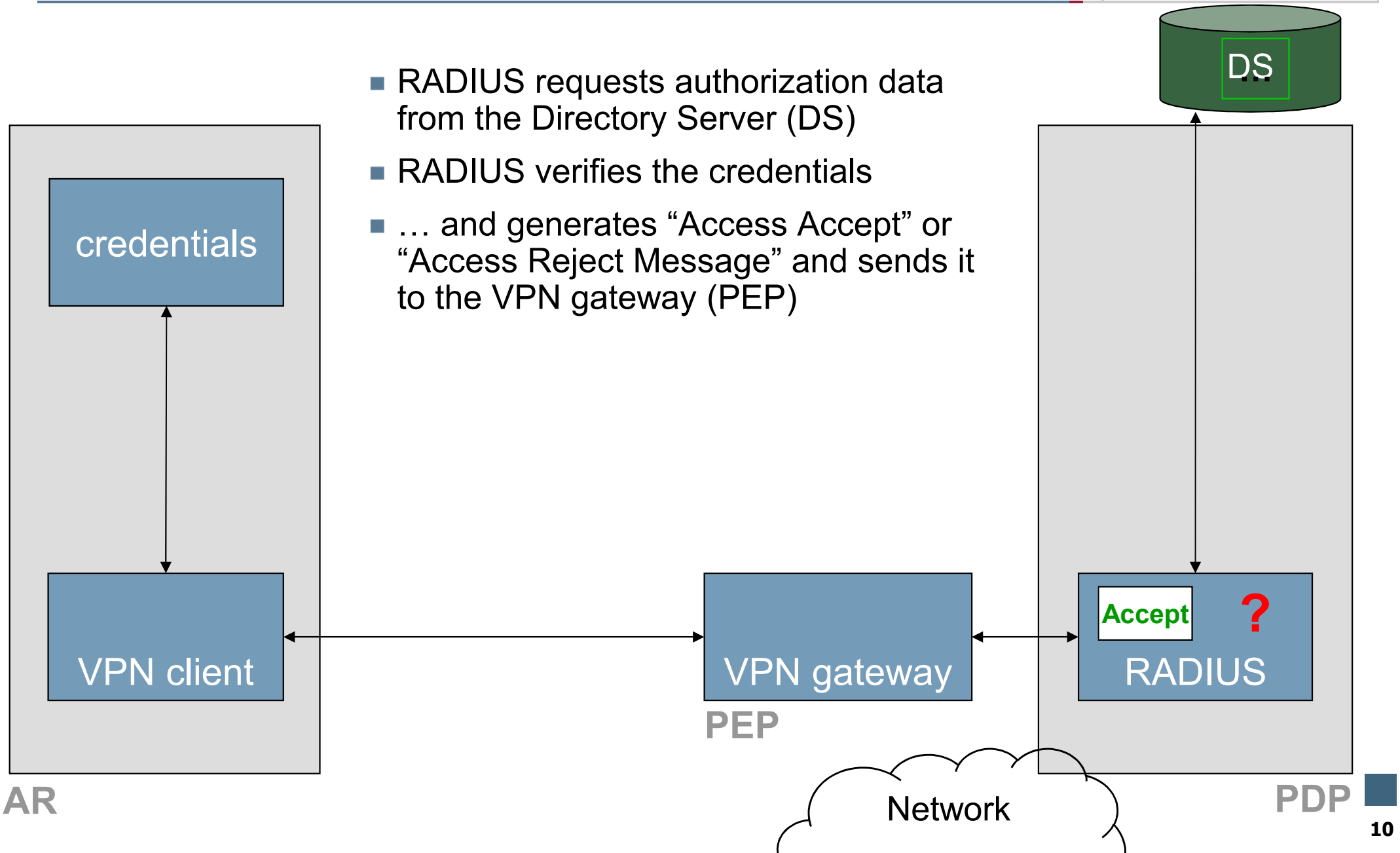


- **Credentials** are provided in terms of token or name/password
- VPN client sends the credentials to the VPN gateway
- VPN gateway verifies the credentials by means of a RADIUS server with an “Access-Request-Message”
- The RADIUS server may use a Directory Server (DS) to verify the access rights

# Communication via VPN (2/6)

## → Authentication/authorization (2/3)

- RADIUS requests authorization data from the Directory Server (DS)
- RADIUS verifies the credentials
- ... and generates "Access Accept" or "Access Reject Message" and sends it to the VPN gateway (PEP)

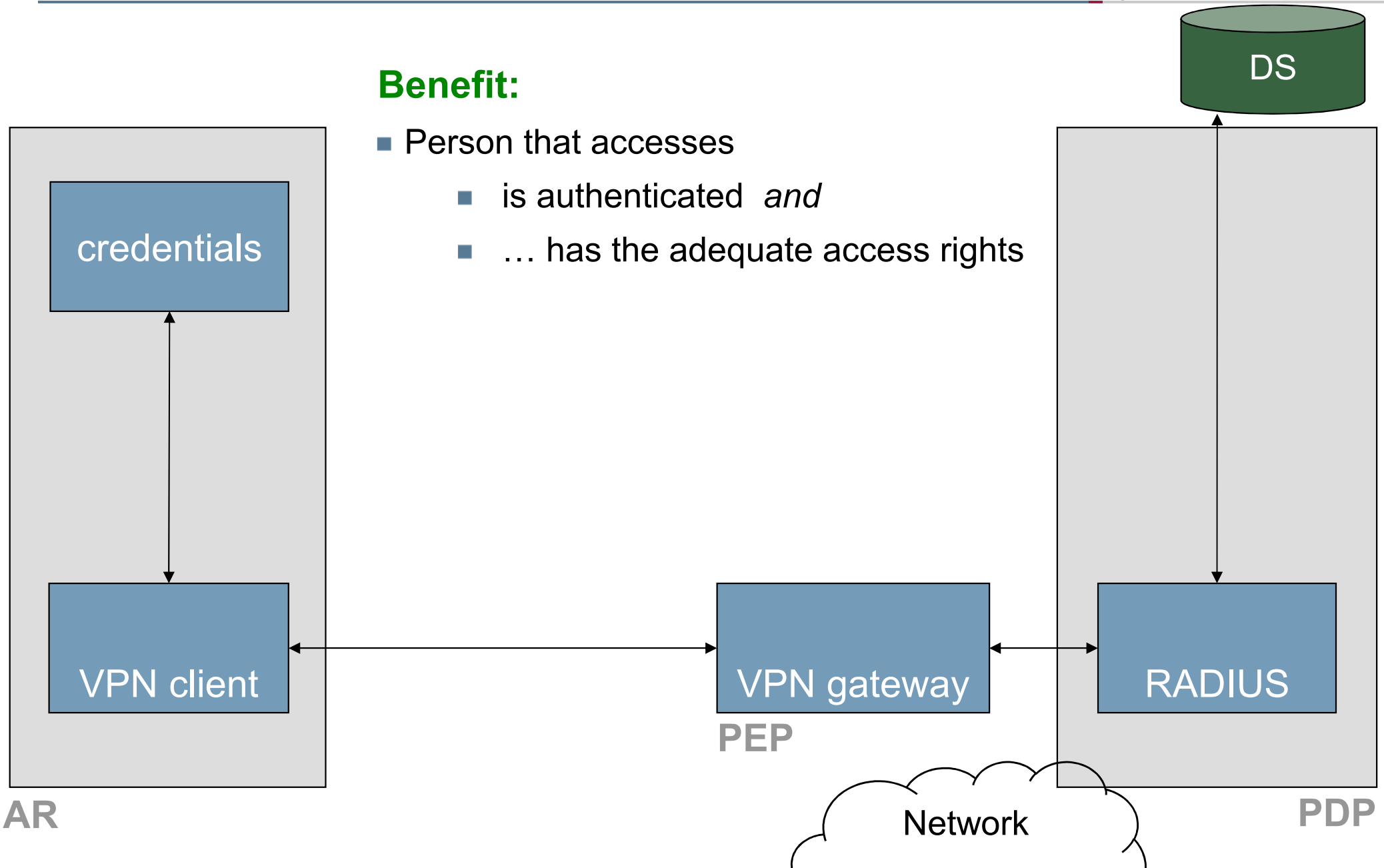


# Communication via VPN (3/6)

## → Authentication/authorization (3/3)

### Benefit:

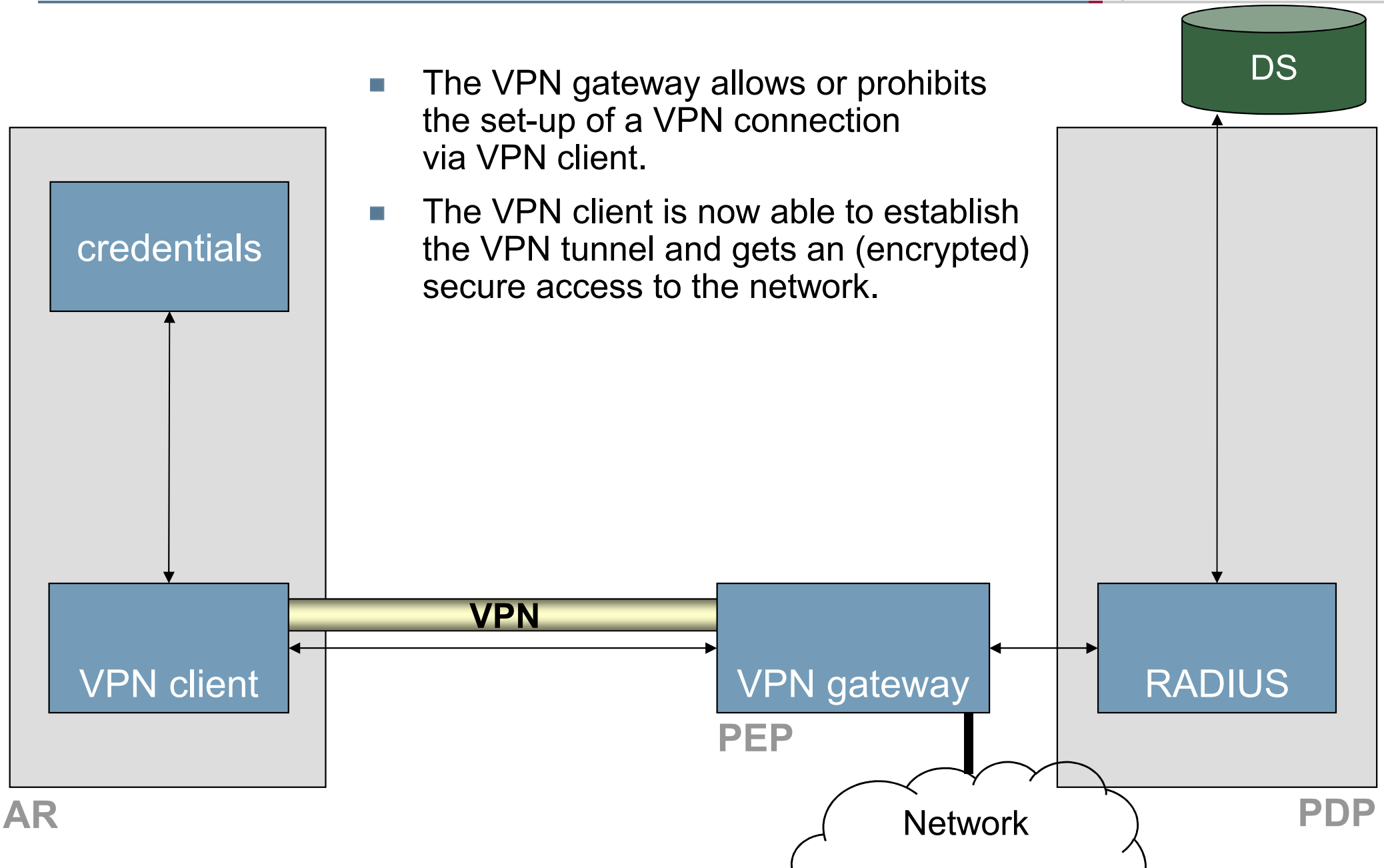
- Person that accesses
  - is authenticated *and*
  - ... has the adequate access rights



# Communication via VPN (4/6)

## → Encrypted communication

- The VPN gateway allows or prohibits the set-up of a VPN connection via VPN client.
- The VPN client is now able to establish the VPN tunnel and gets an (encrypted) secure access to the network.

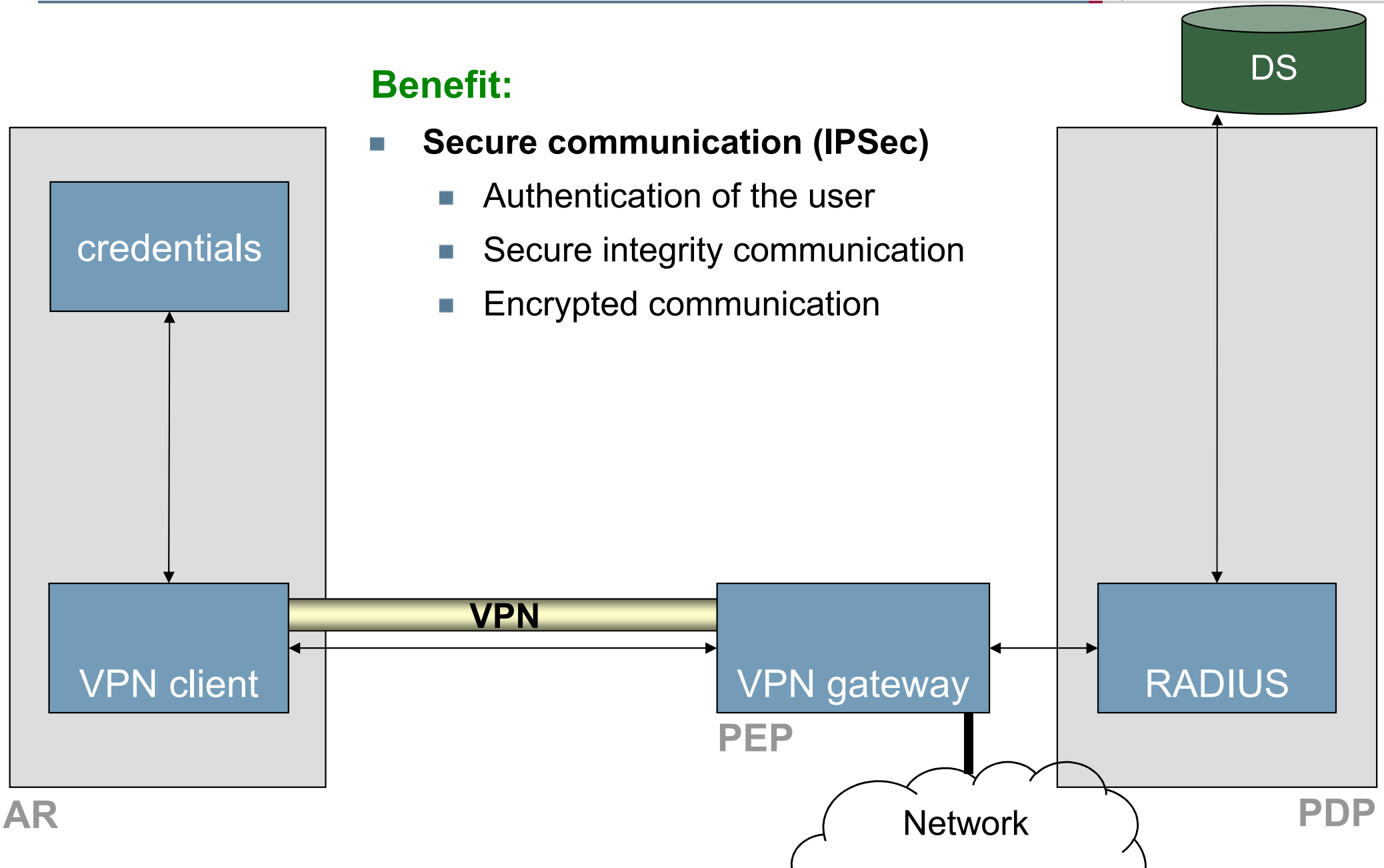


# Communication via VPN (5/6)

## → Secure communication (IPSec)

### Benefit:

- Secure communication (IPSec)
  - Authentication of the user
  - Secure integrity communication
  - Encrypted communication

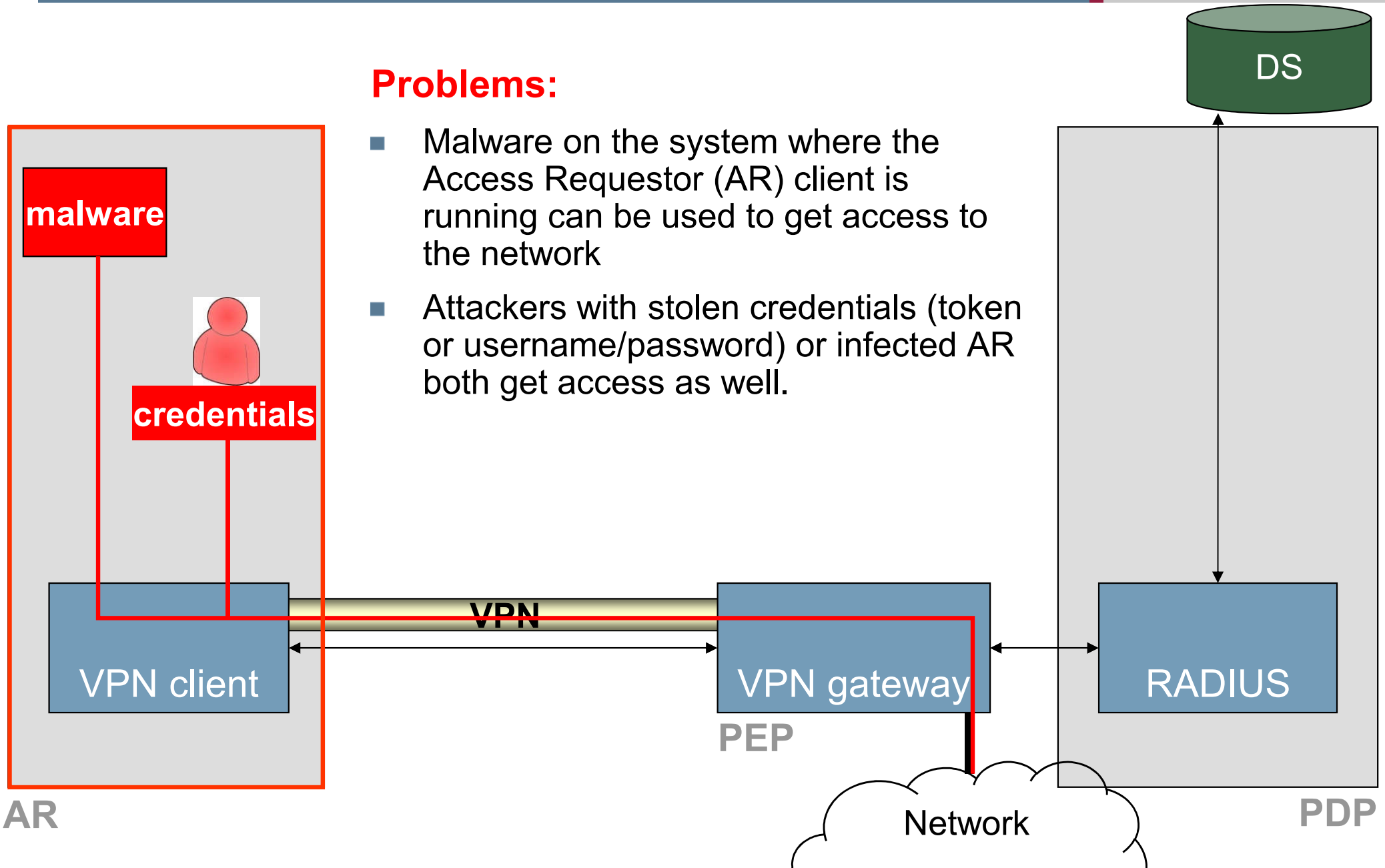


# Communication via VPN (6/6)

## → Open problems with VPN

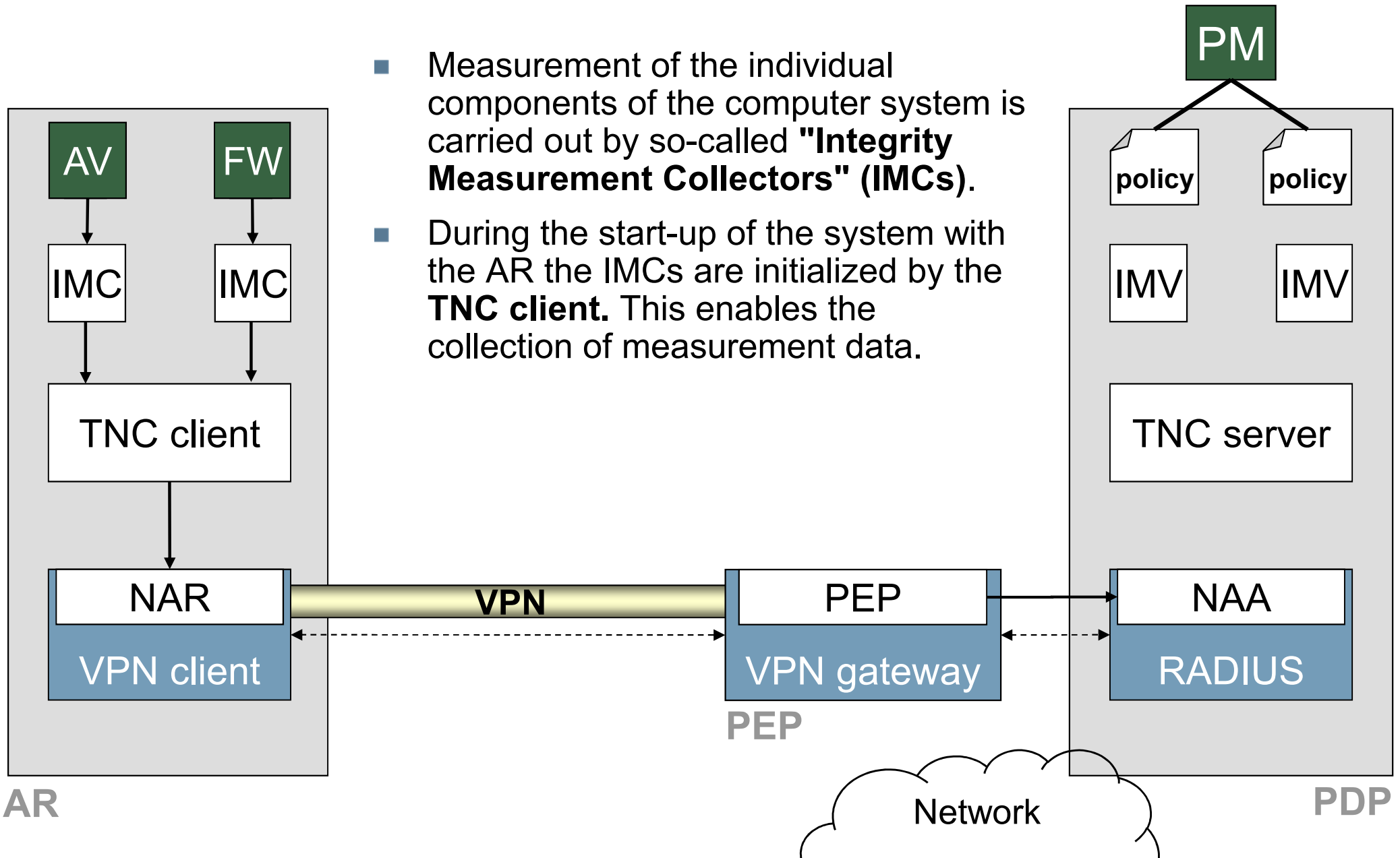
### Problems:

- Malware on the system where the Access Requestor (AR) client is running can be used to get access to the network
- Attackers with stolen credentials (token or username/password) or infected AR both get access as well.



# Trusted Network Connect (TNC)

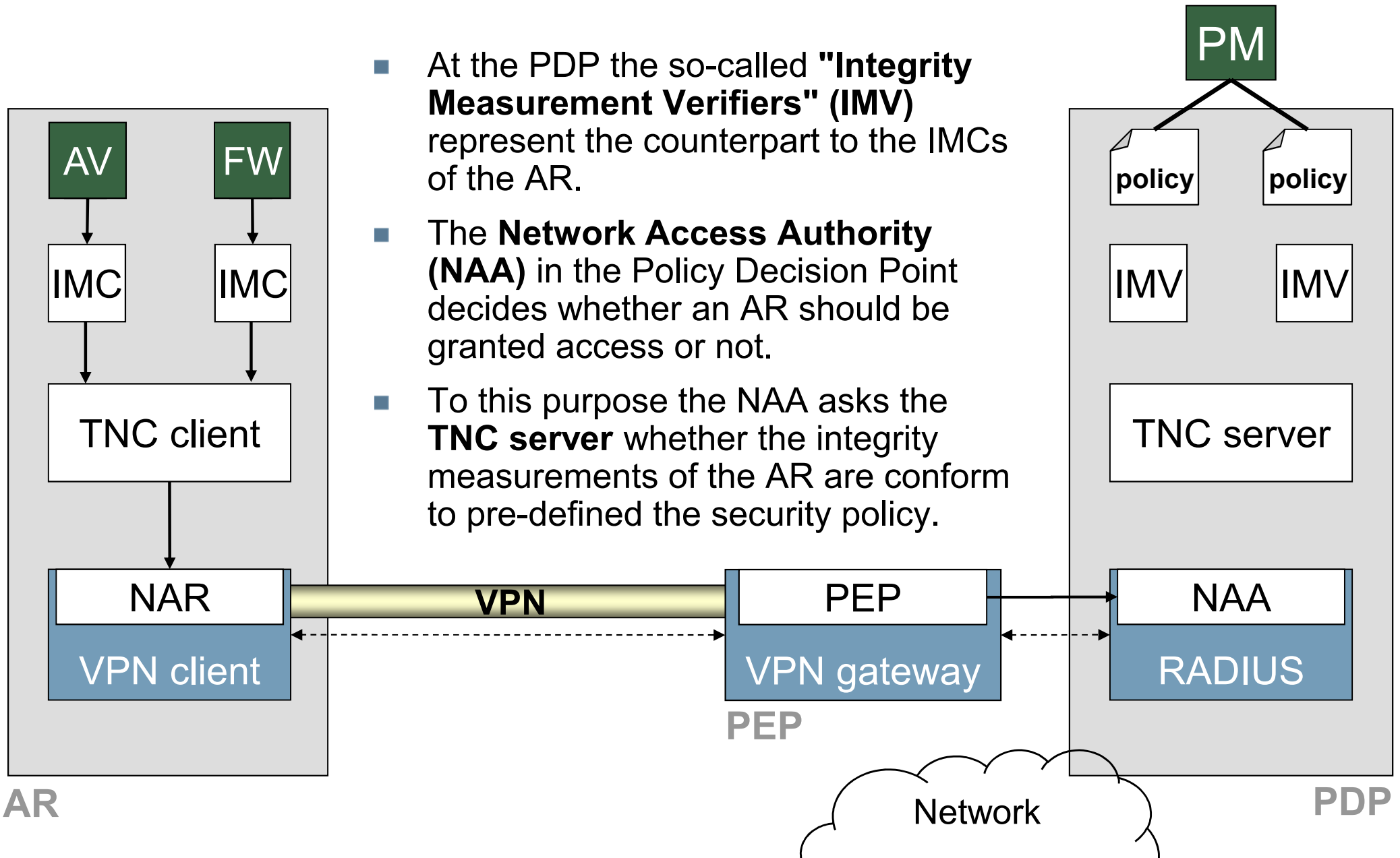
## → Overview: TNC-functions (1/2)



- Measurement of the individual components of the computer system is carried out by so-called "**Integrity Measurement Collectors**" (IMCs).
- During the start-up of the system with the AR the IMCs are initialized by the **TNC client**. This enables the collection of measurement data.

# Trusted Network Connect (TNC)

## → Overview: TNC-functions (2/2)

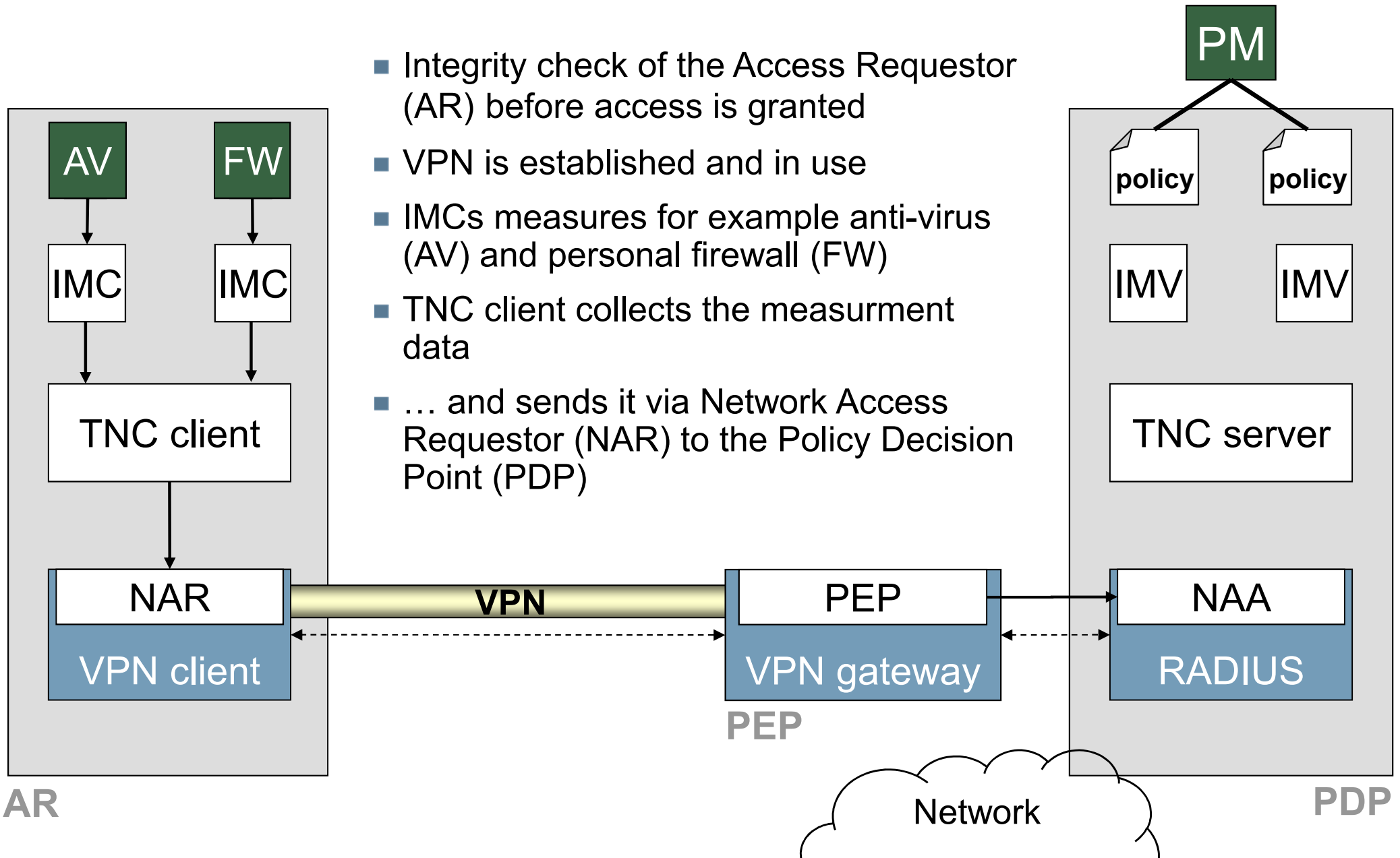


- At the PDP the so-called "**Integrity Measurement Verifiers**" (IMV) represent the counterpart to the IMCs of the AR.
- The **Network Access Authority (NAA)** in the Policy Decision Point decides whether an AR should be granted access or not.
- To this purpose the NAA asks the **TNC server** whether the integrity measurements of the AR are conform to pre-defined the security policy.



# TNC – phases

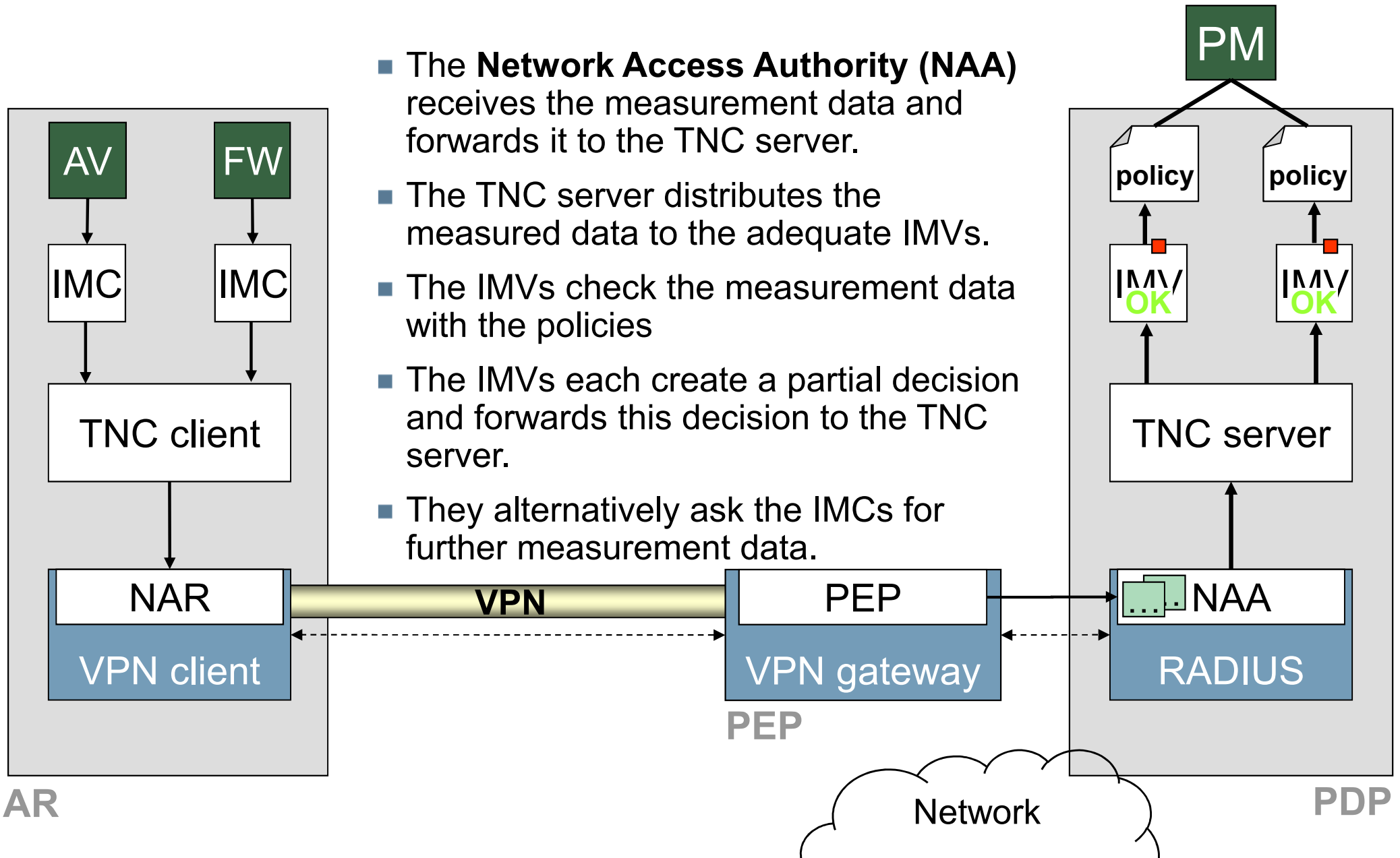
## → Assessment phase (1/3)



- Integrity check of the Access Requestor (AR) before access is granted
- VPN is established and in use
- IMCs measures for example anti-virus (AV) and personal firewall (FW)
- TNC client collects the measurement data
- ... and sends it via Network Access Requestor (NAR) to the Policy Decision Point (PDP)

# TNC – phases

## → Assessment phase (2/3)

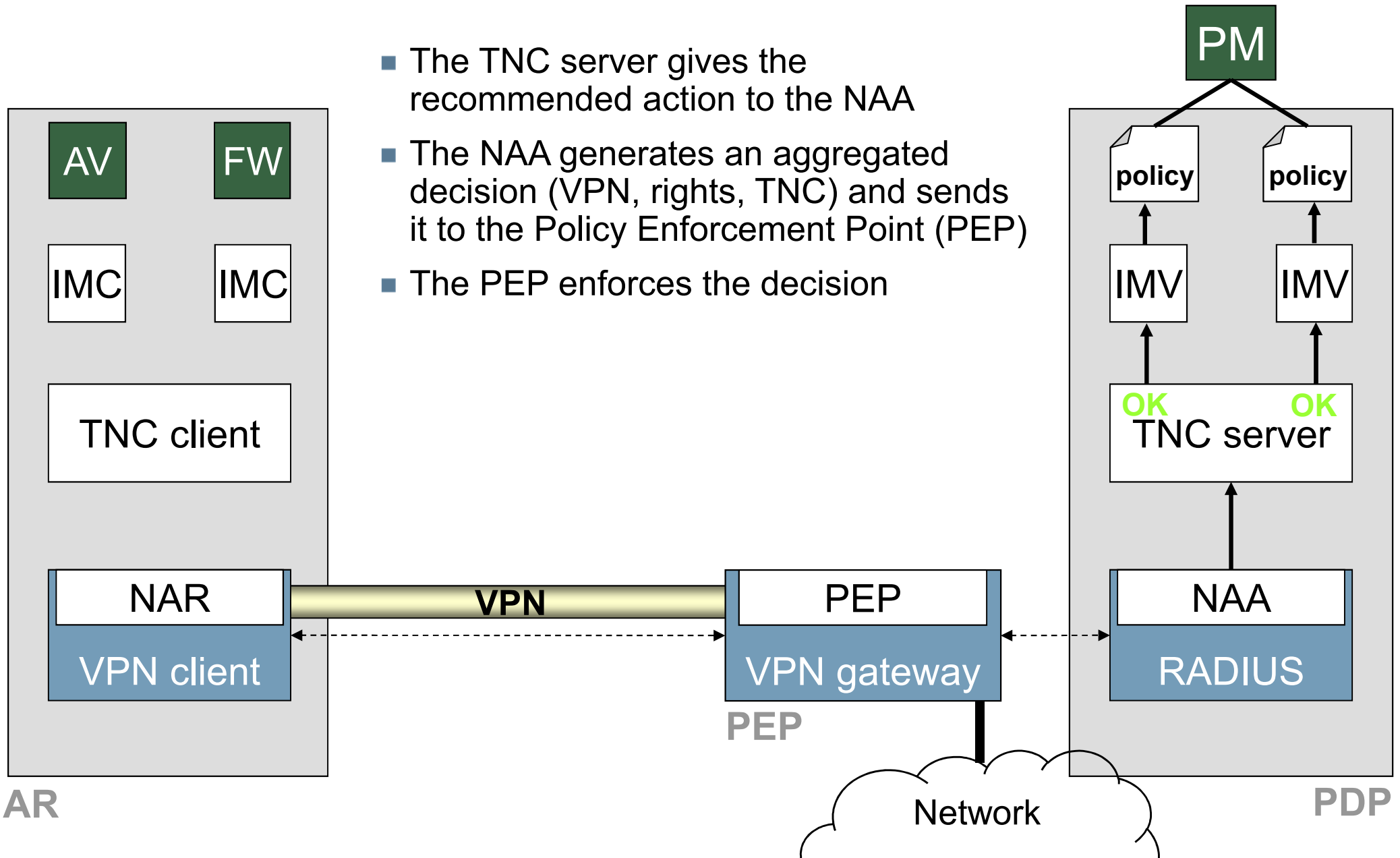


- The **Network Access Authority (NAA)** receives the measurement data and forwards it to the TNC server.
- The TNC server distributes the measured data to the adequate IMVs.
- The IMVs check the measurement data with the policies
- The IMVs each create a partial decision and forwards this decision to the TNC server.
- They alternatively ask the IMCs for further measurement data.

# TNC – phases

## → Assessment phase (3/3)

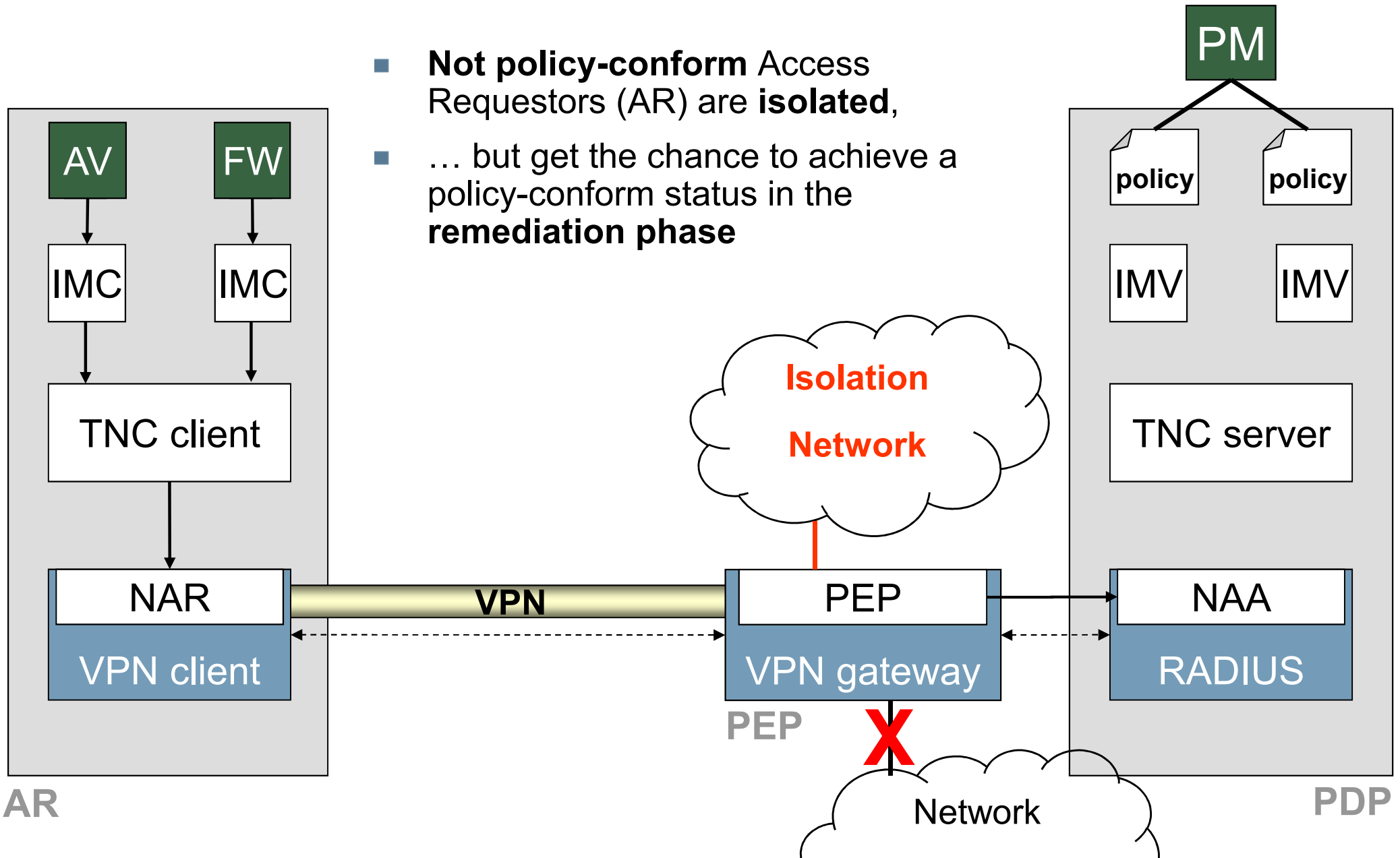
- The TNC server gives the recommended action to the NAA
- The NAA generates an aggregated decision (VPN, rights, TNC) and sends it to the Policy Enforcement Point (PEP)
- The PEP enforces the decision



# TNC – phases

## → Isolation and remediation phase

- **Not policy-conform** Access Requestors (AR) are **isolated**,
- ... but get the chance to achieve a policy-conform status in the **remediation phase**

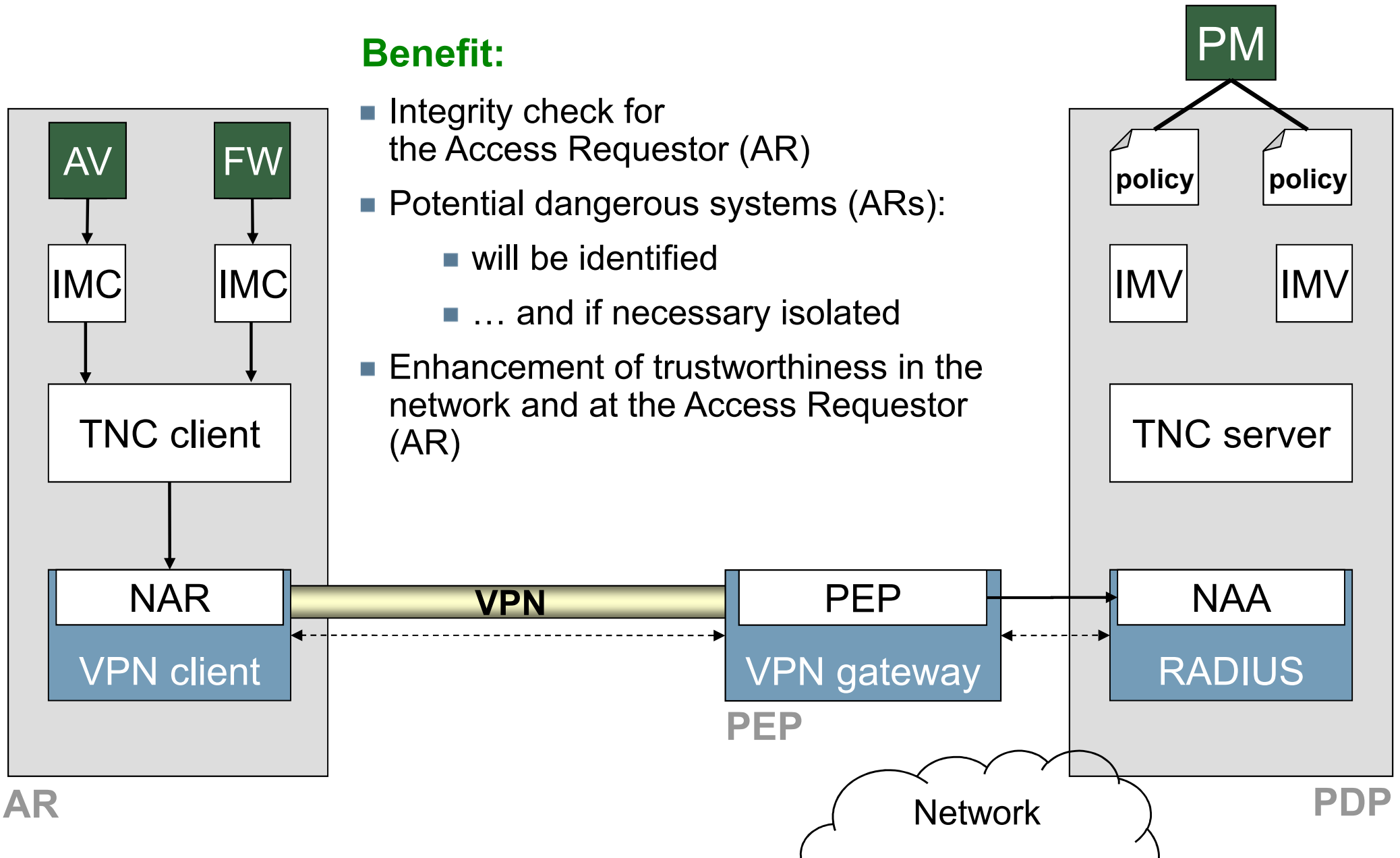


# TNC

## → Trusted Network Connect

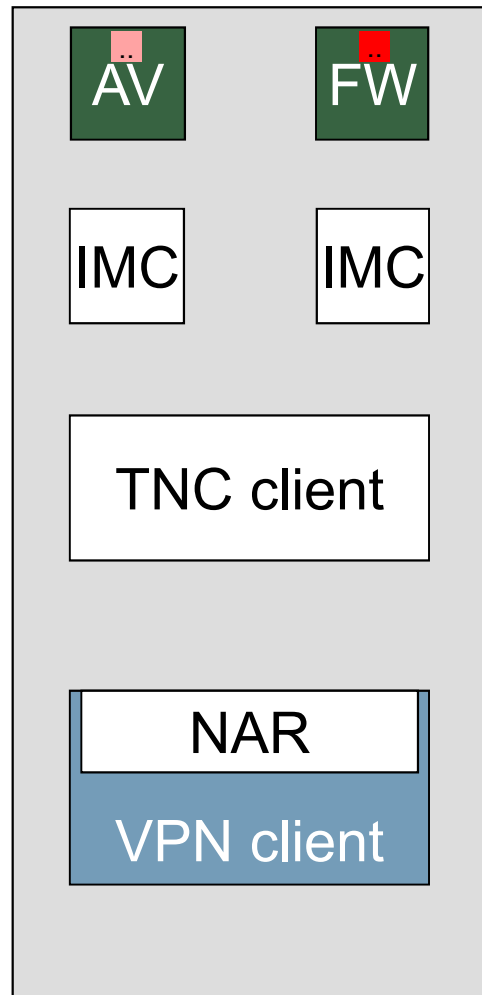
### Benefit:

- Integrity check for the Access Requestor (AR)
- Potential dangerous systems (ARs):
  - will be identified
  - ... and if necessary isolated
- Enhancement of trustworthiness in the network and at the Access Requestor (AR)



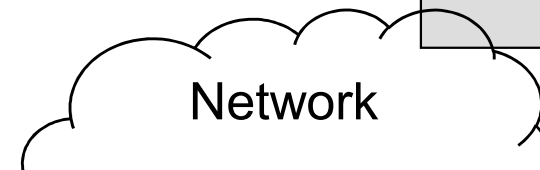
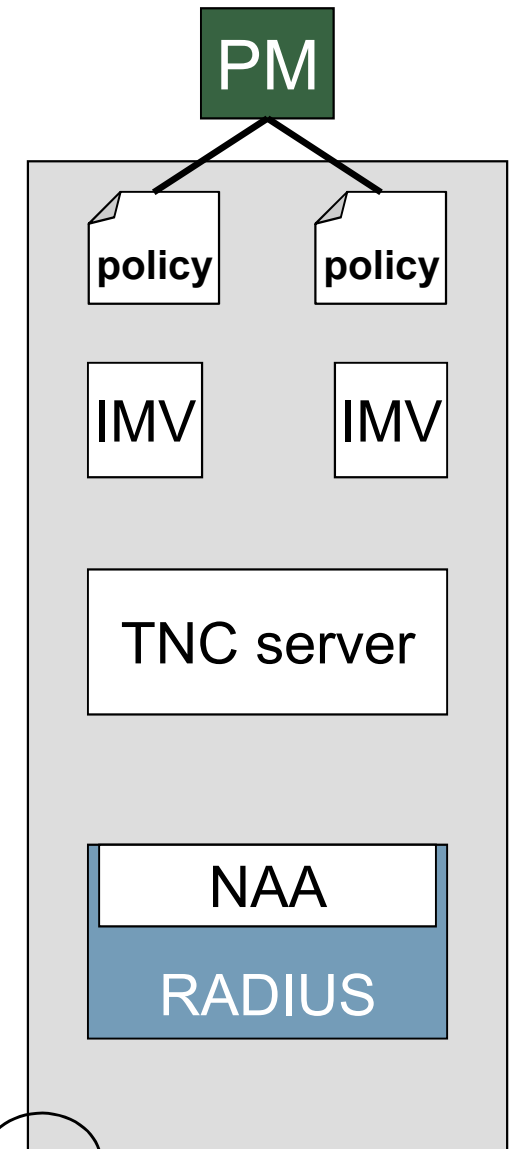
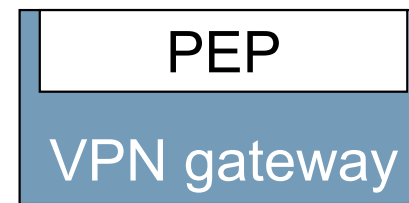
# TNC

## → Open problems with TNC



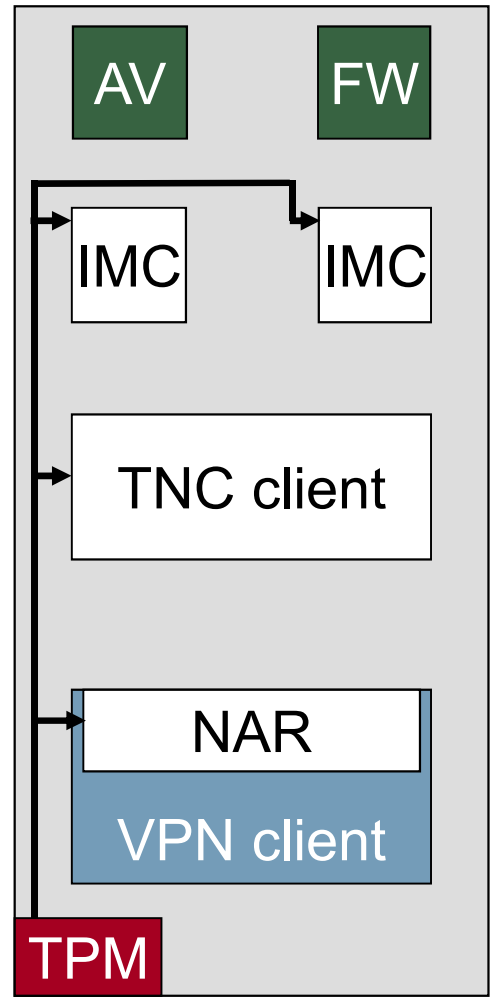
### Problems:

- No protection against manipulated measured data such as:
  - Compromised software of IT security products
  - Compromised TNC components
- Measurements only offers a limited perspective of the Access Requestor (AV, FW, ...)



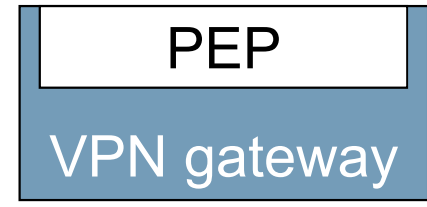
# TNC+

## → TNC + TPM

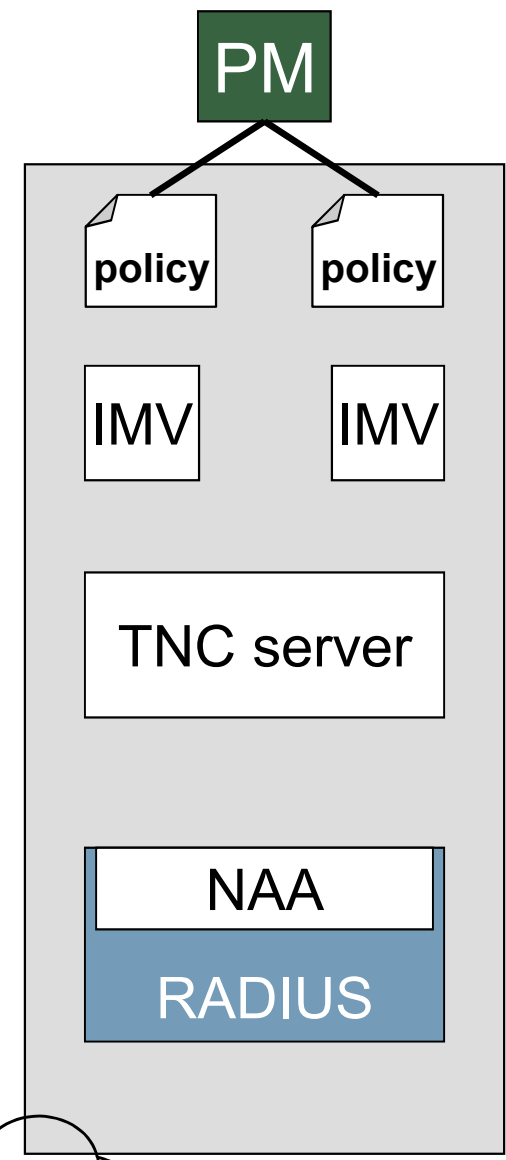


AR

- What additional benefit does the TPM offer?
  - A reliable random number generator for secure cryptographic keys
  - Cryptographic functions
  - Platform Configuration Register (PCR) to store the system configuration.
  - “Trusted Boot”, “Sealing”, “Attestation”, and so on.



PEP



PDP

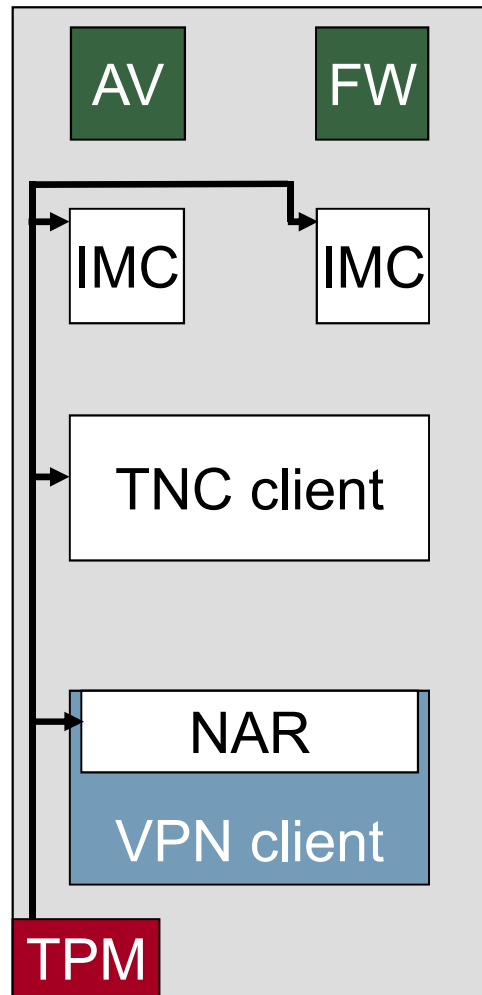


Network

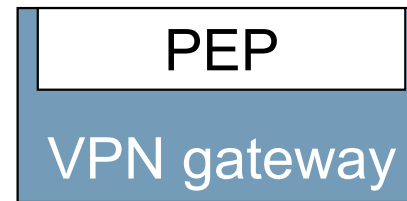
# TNC+

## → additional benefit: TPM

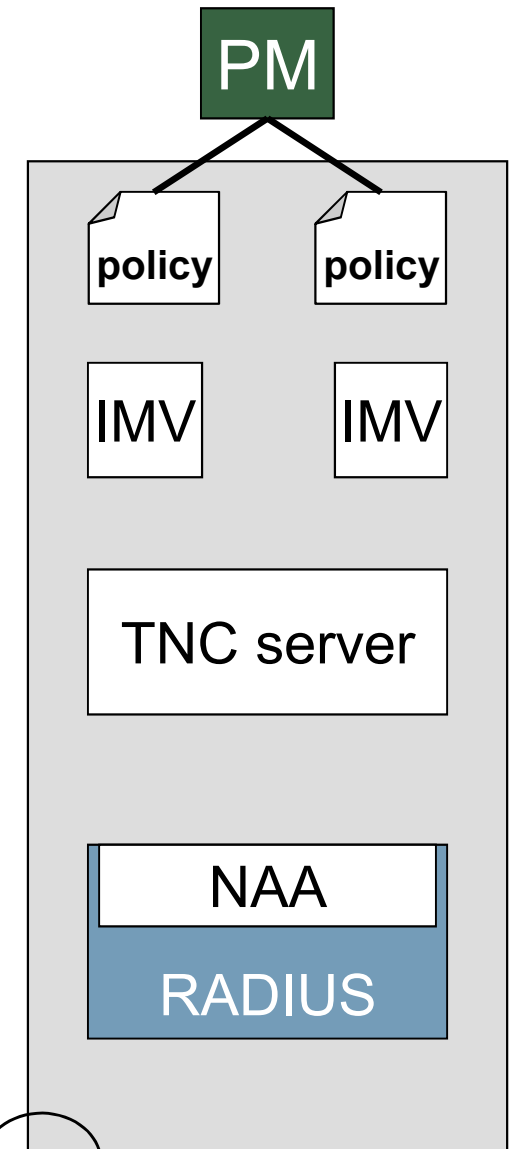
- TPM functions help with:
  - Integrity checks for the TNC components
  - Support the attestation & authentication of the platform
  - Linking communication connections to a platform (against attacks)
  - Protecting cryptographic keys (attestation, VPN, authentication, ...)



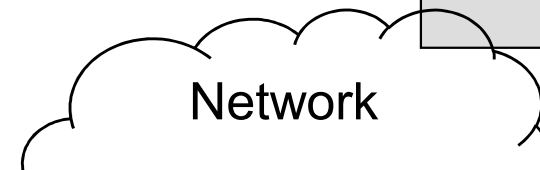
AR



PEP



PDP

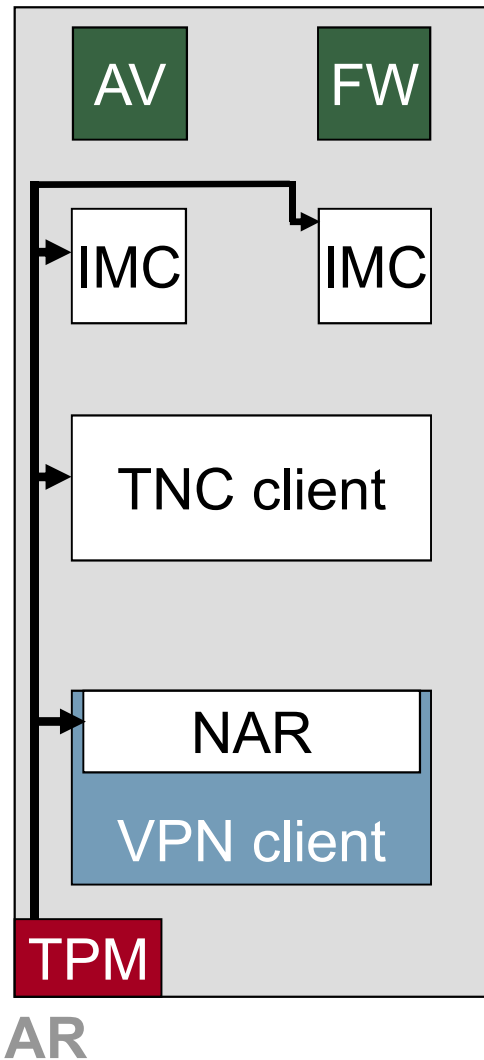


Network



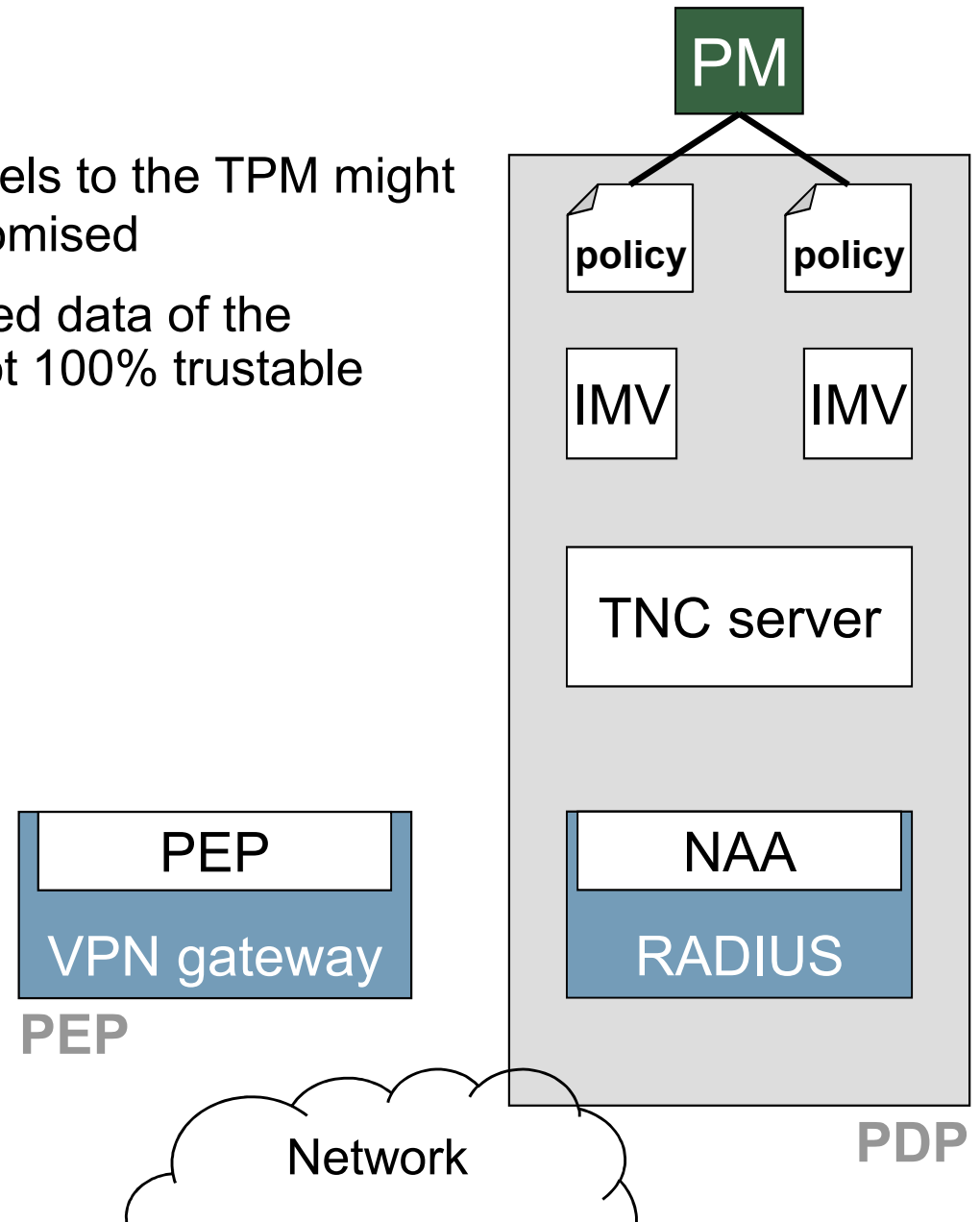
# TNC+

## → TPM: restrictions



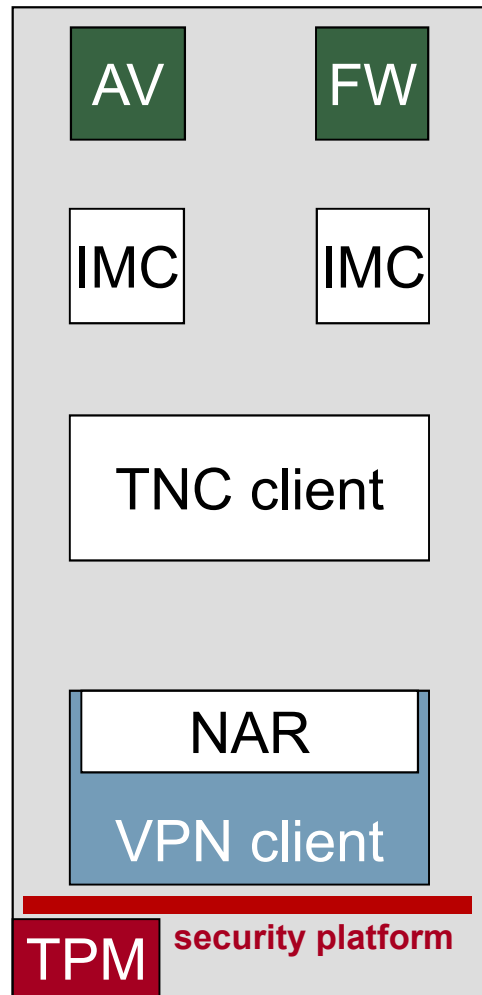
### Problems:

- The access channels to the TPM might have been compromised
- ... so that measured data of the TNC concept is not 100% trustable



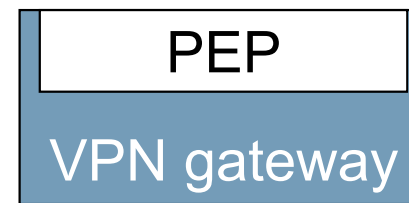
# TNC++

## → TNC + TPM + security platform

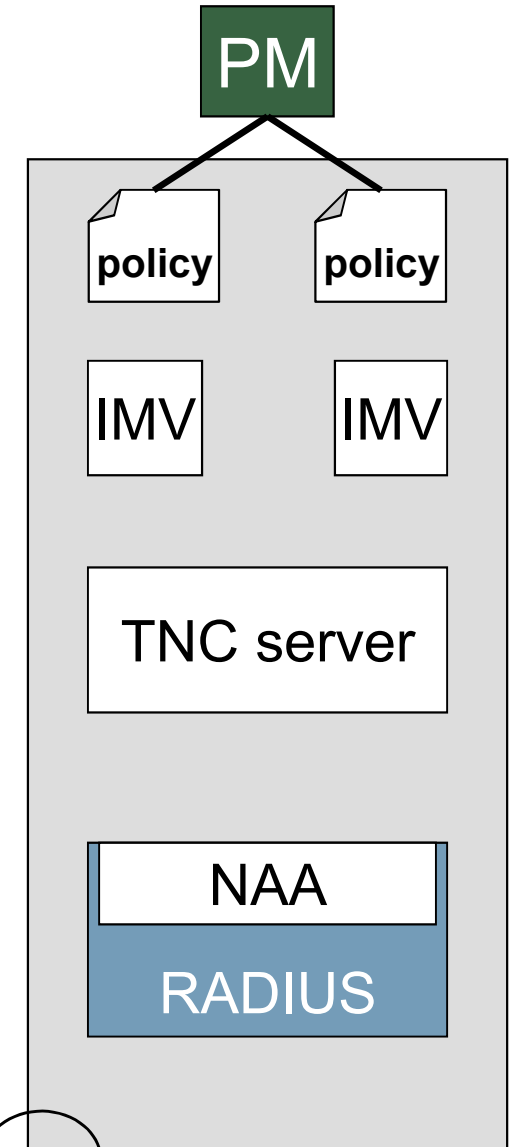


AR

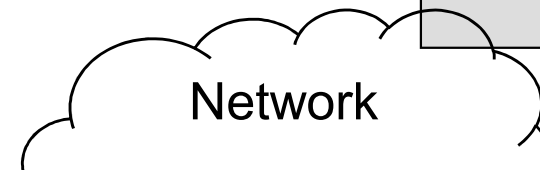
- What additional benefit does a security platform offer?
  - Virtualization technologies
  - Authentication of individual compartments
  - Binding of data to individual compartments
  - Trusted path
  - Secure policy enforcement



PEP

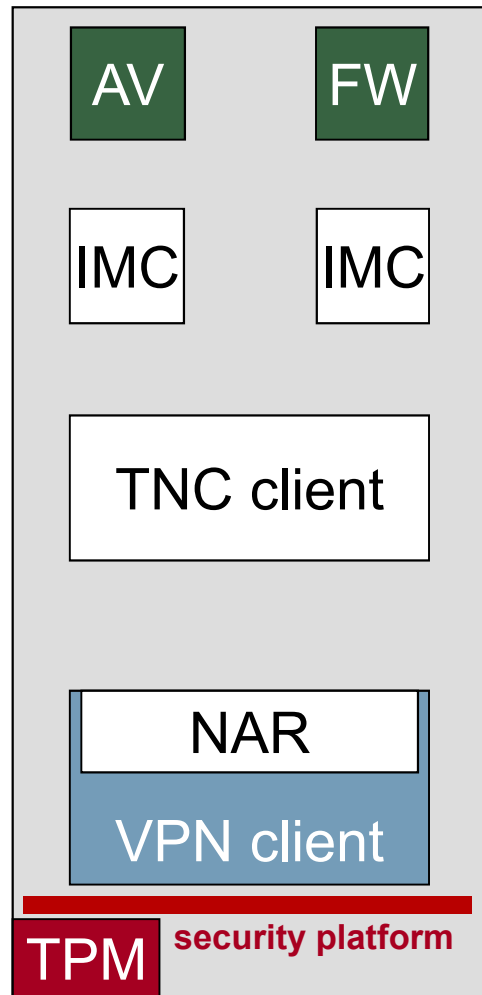


PDP



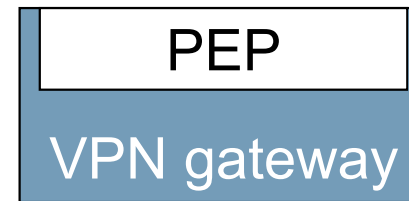
# TNC++

## → Overvalue: security platform

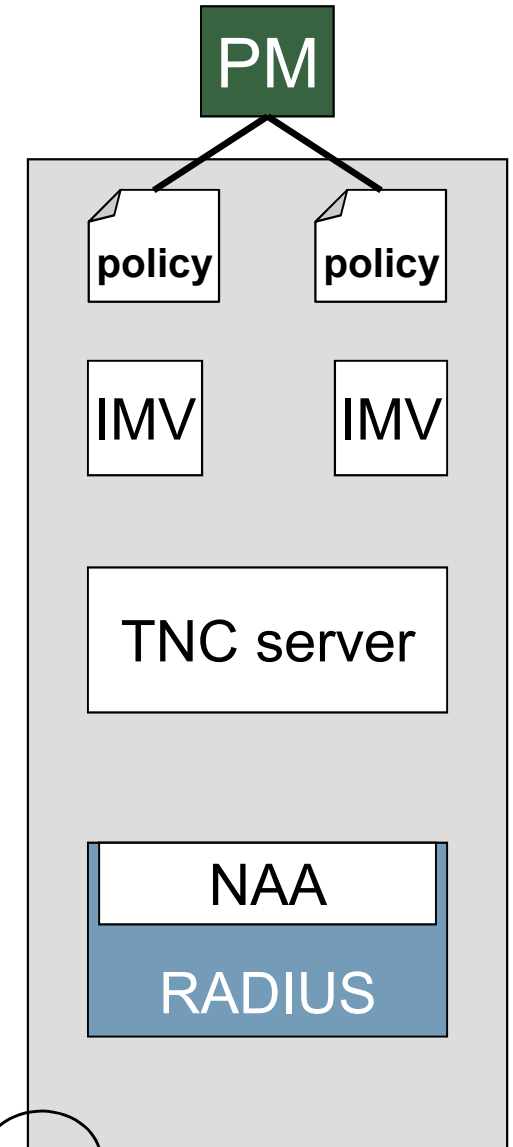


AR

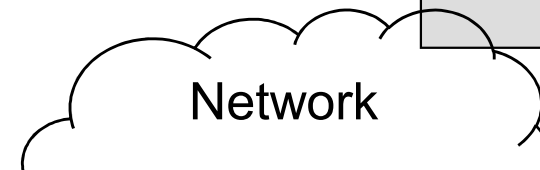
- Protection against attacks based on:
  - Isolation of TNC components
  - Isolation of anti-virus (AV) and personal firewall (FW)
- Measurement data can be complemented by a trustworthy digital signature provided by the TPM



PEP

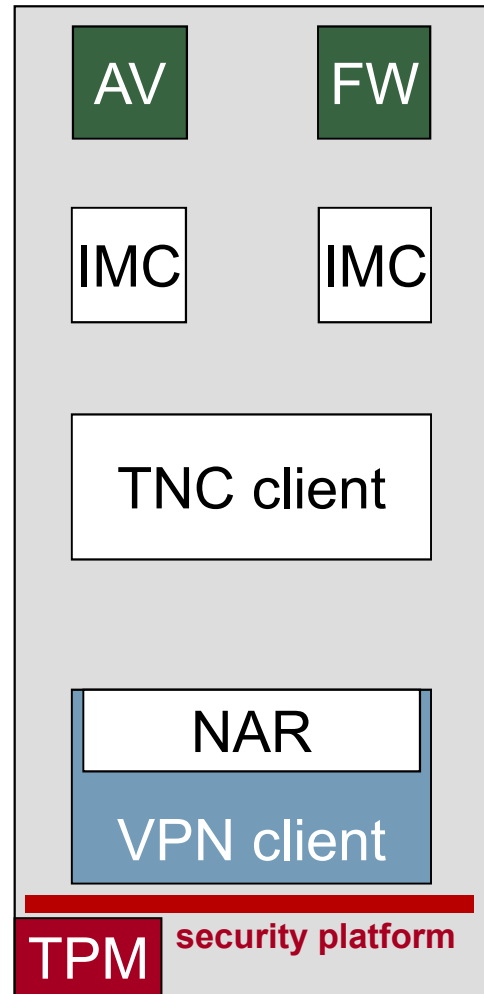


PDP



# TNC++

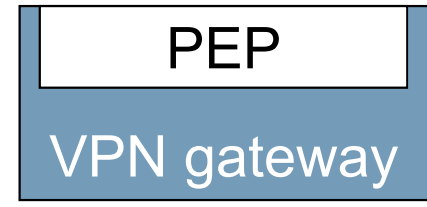
## → Added value: security platform



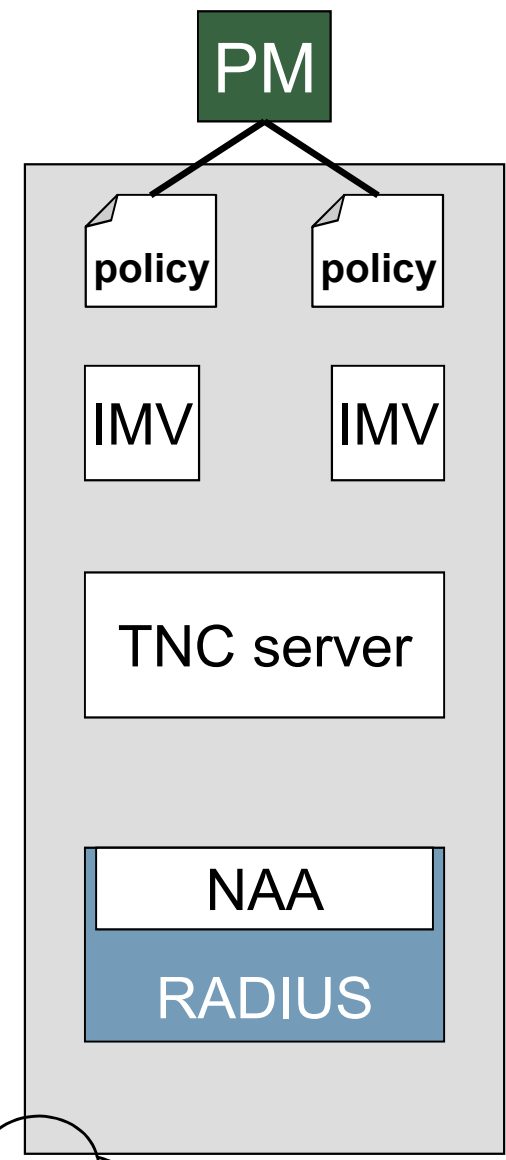
AR

### Benefit:

- Very reliable and trustable integrity checks of the Access Requestor (AR) prior to access to the network.
- Potentially dangerous systems (ARs) will be identified and if necessary isolated
- Security functions on the basis of TPM and the security platform **enhance the level of trustworthiness.**



PEP



PDP



- Aim and outcomes of this lecture
- What are the problems?
- TNC Process
- **Definition of the Policies**
- Summary

# Open questions (1/2)

- **Who defines the policies?**
- Who defines which configuration of systems and IT security products can be credited as trustworthy?
  - **Vendors?**
    - Operating systems and applications vendors?
    - Software vendor of TNC solution?
    - Security software vendors of IT security products such as IMC and IMV for anti-virus (AV) and personal firewall (FW)?
  - **Operators?**
    - Strategic decision?
    - Experiences?
  - **Both together?**
    - How can we structure this cooperation?
    - Who takes the responsibility?

# Open questions (2/2)

- Do we need a **Technical Inspection Authority**?
  - Which makes a common criteria evaluation for IT systems
  - And only if the evaluation is ok, companies can sell the hardware and software?
- Do we need a **user-oriented organization**, which takes care of the trustworthiness?
  - Verification of new technologies, security mechanisms, and so on
  - Collecting the experience of the user
  - Recommendation how to use integrity check of remote computer systems

- Aim and outcomes of this lecture
- What are the problems?
- TNC Process
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- **Summary**



# TNC Process

## → Summary

- Trustworthiness is not a status!
- **Trustworthiness is a process!**
- Let us start the necessary process to reach a **higher level of trustworthiness!**
- **Network Access Control** and especially **Trusted Network Connect** seem to be the right concept.



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# Trusted Computing

## → Introduction

**Thank you for your attention!**  
**Questions?**

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**if(is)**  
internet security.

# TNC Process

## → Literature

- [1] M. Jungbauer, N. Pohlmann: „Integrity Check of Remote Computer Systems - Trusted Network Connect", in "ISSE/SECURE 2007 - Securing Electronic Business Processes - Highlights of the Information Security Solutions Europe/Secure 2007 Conference", Hrsg.: N. Pohlmann, H. Reimer, W. Schneider; Vieweg-Verlag, Wiesbaden 2007
- [2] M. Jungbauer, N. Pohlmann: „Trusted Network Connect Vertrauenswürdige Netzwerkverbindungen", in "Trusted Computing - Ein Weg zu neuen IT-Sicherheitsarchitekturen", Hrsg.: N. Pohlmann, H. Reimer; Vieweg-Verlag, Wiesbaden 2008

### Links:

Institute for Internet Security:

<http://www.internet-sicherheit.de/forschung/aktuelle-projekte/trusted-computing/>

<http://www.internet-sicherheit.de/forschung/aktuelle-projekte/tnac/>