

Re: How to make give cross-domain "Domain Admins" permissions

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But the domain local "Administrators" group does not have some privileges that "Domain Admins" do.

Domain Admins don't have any special permissions, the group is simply a member of administrators on every domain member and the builtin\administrators group of the domain. If you've added a group to the Administrators group of the EUROPE domain it has the same level of permissions over the DCs and AD as the EUROPE\Domain Admins group.

I don't want to have admin privileges over all member servers/workstations, instead I'm just trying to give a single group "EUROPE\Directory Service Group" domain admins rights over all the domains in the forest.

Then you need to add that group into the Administrators group (of the domain) in each domain.

These rights should allow them to modify AD Topology/replication, view/create/modify existing GPOs, among others..

Yes, this will grant them all that.

There are security implications here. It should be noted that there should be very few people with total control over the forest, so be very careful with who's a member of this group. Monitor the membership and use restricted groups to enforce the membership of this, and the administrators groups.

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Paul Williams

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Microsoft MVP – Windows Server – Directory Services

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