Smart mobility at the European land Borders

Press Release │ SMILE H2020 EU Project starts testing its new technologies

EU, (27 September 2019). The EU funded SMILE project has initiated its pilot activities related to the testing and evaluating of the capability of the proposed SMILE solution for land border crossing. The 6-month pilots of SMILE project will be held at two different land Border Crossing Points (BCPs), simultaneously. The first pilot will take place at Romanian-Hungarian border (Nadlac II BCP point) whereas the second one will take place at the Bulgarian-Romanian BCP (Ruse-Giurgiu BCP) in the city of Ruse, Bulgaria.

"*The SMILE Action pilots is an opportunity to study how the combination of SMILE biometric modalities and mobile technologies work in different land border crossing point scenarios. This procedure is necessary for achieving the main objectives of SMILE project to improve the flow of travellers crossing land borders, increasing the border security and border checks reliability while complying with all relevant European regulations and fundamental human rights and enhance personal data protection and privacy*" said Georgios Stavropoulos (a research associate at the Centre for Research & Technology Hellas - CERTH). "*The results of the pilots will be beneficial to all SMILE partners, including the border authorities and travellers. SMILE solution providers will receive operational feedback on the actual use of the proposed solution, while border authorities will gain hands-on experience with the new technologies used and facilitate their use in border control and security applications.*".

SMILE pilot will involve three user categories: Travellers, BCP personnel and system administrators. The SMILE platform will offer to the travellers (voluntary participants based on informed consent) an enrolment, pre-registration of a trip, and simulated border crossing functionality. Moreover, the SMILE pilots will allow BCP personnel to verify the performance of SMILE solution, in terms of, travellers' identification and verification, efficient and on-the-move security control for individuals and group of travellers as well as how SMILE will improve the border control management.

SMILE solution is aiming to enhance the border security and make identification as well as authentication procedures of travellers easy, fast and convenient. Its main purpose is to provide the possibility for travellers to enrol and register their travel in advance, at least two hours prior to the border crossing time, using ID/passport data and biometric modalities in a smartphone application and web-based application for comfort and convenience to reduce the border crossing waiting time.

SMILE H2020 Action consortium consists of 14 partners from eight European countries with complementary expertise and roles, including technology providers, universities, research institutes and border guard authorities.

To find out more about SMILE, please visit the project Web site at: **https://smile-h2020.eu/**

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