

### The H2020 project SMILE:

### SMILE: SMart mobILity at the European land borders

# Center for Research and Technology Hellas – Information Technologies Institute

#### **Presenter:**

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#### **Project summary**

- July 2017 to June 2020
- Activity: SEC-14-BES-2016 Towards reducing the cost of technologies in land border security applications
- Work Programme Objective: Secure societies - Protecting freedom and security of Europe and its citizens
- Grant Agreement No: 740931
- Duration: 36 Months
- Coordinator: CERTH / ITI

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- Delivered a palette of **low-cost technological solutions** that make the management of land border control points **less resource intensive**, while at the same time **contribute to the traveller's convenience without sacrificing security**
- Explored the capabilities of smart mobile devices in biometric control for lowcost but secure and trusted authentication, embedding their exploitation as a part of a multimodal biometric verification process that complements existing approaches.
- The long-term goal of the SMILE team is to provide a set of affordable and easy to be installed modules, to support the needs of EU Land Border Infrastructures.





Summary – 2

- Project ended as of 30/06/2020
- Finalized all applications/developments
  - Travellers' application (mobile and web based)
  - BCP officers application (tablet)
  - High-ranking officers application for monitoring and statistics (web)
  - Backend services
- Pilot demonstrations
  - Three pilot sites:
    - Nadlac: Romanian Hungarian borders
    - Ruse: Bulgarian Romanian borders
    - High-security building scenario (Bucharest)
  - Pilots were active from 11/2019 03/2020
    - Total number of participants: 524
    - Interrupted due to COVID-19



## **SMILE overview**







Traveller experience	Participants percentage (%)
Negative	0
Negative-Neutral	0
Neutral	2.9
Positive-Neutral	2.2
Positive	94.9

#### Main remarks:

- ✓ Overall satisfying results
- Face and soft biometrics false detections caused by ambient light dependency
- ✓ Flawless performance by iris and fingerprint modules
- ✓ About 1 in 10 travellers willing to participate



# **Pilot sites: Nadlac**

15'

13'

1' 3'

**Total time needed** 



Traveller experience	Participants percentage (%)
Negative	0
Negative-Neutral	0
Neutral	10
Positive-Neutral	35
Positive	55

Main remarks:

- ✓ Promising results
- ✓ Face and soft biometrics were widely tested.
- Iris and fingerprint modules were evaluated with satisfying results only to few officers due to COVID-19 restrictions
- ✓ Officers' familiarization with SMILE system and resolution of minor technical issues are expected to reduce the border checks' duration to less than 1 minute.



#### Modalities and number of participants

Tested module	Number of participants
Enrolment	147
Document check	147
Integrated checks	20 (COVID-19 period)

#### Pilot test stages and duration

Pilot test	Duration
Briefing & Informed consent signing	10'
Enrolment and pre- registration	9'
Document check	5" (application time)
Face Biometric check	3" (application time)

Main remarks:

- Promising results for document scanning and face biometric check
- ✓ Accelerated check procedures that last less than 10 seconds
- ✓ The pilot was greatly impacted from COVID-19 restrictions
- Many updates and troubleshooting took place during COVID-19 depriving the chances for testing the new versions



□ The proposed system is used only for **1**<sup>st</sup> line authorization</sup>

• 2<sup>nd</sup> line remains as-is

□ SMILE uses the concept of "**pre-registration**":

- Similar to air-travel "check-in", travellers provide their information (documents, biometrics, travel plans, ETA etc.) prior to their arrival at the Border Crossing Point
- Checking are performed off-line. SMILE system collects information from national and international databases (e.g., EES, ETIAS, VIS, SIS etc.) and runs a "risk analysis" on the travellers.
- If no alerts are risen, the travellers are allowed to go through the "fast-lane", where a final identification is required
- Similar approach applied to **lorries** (only for border crossing, NOT for customs)
- □ Special case of buses: passengers treated as *group* instead of individuals, aiming to improve the flows at the borders.
- □ The SMILE platform also can *suggest* the best arrival time period, based on the expected traffic, thus improving the flows and reducing waiting times.
- □ As reported by end-users, communication delays between various systems can increase waiting times by a lot. The "pre-registration" application improves in this point.



# Thank you for your attention!

SMILE - GA: 740931



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