



European projects on security research

Press Release | European researchers to consider if and how law enforcement technologies could be trusted

EU (May 29, 2020). On 18-19 of June, seven EU-funded H2020 Actions working on border security and crime-fighting technologies will launch a two-day online seminar to provide a platform for addressing challenges and exchanging ideas on ethics, privacy and data protection.

This jointly organised webinar aims to discuss ethical, social and legal challenges arising from the use of new technologies such as biometrics and artificial intelligence (AI) in law enforcement applications. Thus, our projects expect that this event will foster the engagement of relevant stakeholders such as policymakers, agencies, industry, researchers and the public in establishing a technology security policy at both European and national level.

As Mohamed Abomhara, postdoctoral researcher at NTNU stated: *“New technologies in this digital era can be seen everywhere from border crossing points, streets, to the internet with tools and tactics that are used by law enforcement. For law practitioners, it means learning how to prevent and investigate crimes, but in a way, that is legal, as well as ethical. Such dilemmas become more and more critical to societies, and this is not going to change any time soon. To this end, our researchers join forces, work and share their knowledge with other players in the field to facilitate the adoption of technologies without jeopardising personal freedoms”.*

On the first day of the webinar, representatives of the respective projects will articulate their ethical and legal approach with regards to their novel solutions. On the second day, keynote speakers will focus on how an ethical integration on security technologies such as monitoring technologies, biometric systems and profile tools, can be feasible. Finally, at the end of each day, a questions and answers session will take place.

The objective of those seven projects is to foster secure European societies in a context of rapid changes and growing interdependencies and threats while strengthening the European culture of freedom and justice. All the participating Actions develop solutions using integrated and novel tools of security aimed at understanding, detecting, preventing, deterring and protecting against security threats while ensuring privacy and freedom, and strengthening the societal legal and ethical understanding of security applications. More specifically:

SMILE H2020 Action which is the organiser of this event will deliver a palette of low-cost technological solutions that will make the management of land border control points less resource-intensive while will contribute to the traveller's convenience without sacrificing security. More info at <https://smile-h2020.eu/>

PERSONA H2020 Action sets out to develop and test an integrated impact assessment (IAM PERSONA) method to be used by public authorities to appropriately assess the consequences of new no-gate crossing point solutions that these authorities plan to deploy at state borders. The objective is to provide these authorities with a means to assure, to the highest extent possible, that border control respects democracy, the rule of law and fundamental human rights. More info at <http://persona-project.eu/>.

MAGNETO H2020 project aims to empower law enforcement agencies with superior crime analysis, prevention and investigation capabilities. The MAGNETO platform will enable law enforcement agencies to consistently process massive heterogeneous data more efficiently, facilitating their transformation into solid and court-proof evidence and providing end-users with better awareness and understanding of current or past security-related situations. More info at <http://www.magneto-h2020.eu/>.

D4FLY H2020 Action aims to augment the current capabilities and capacities of border authorities in countering emerging threats in document and identity verification (e.g., forged documents, impostor fraud, morphed faces). The D4FLY set of tools and systems targets to improve the quality of the verification while reducing major time sinks in the border control processes, thus enabling real on-the-move border-crossing experience for travellers. More info at <https://d4fly.eu/>.

PREVISION H2020 Action is developing a platform to provide near-real-time analytical support for multiple big data streams, subsequently allowing semantic integration into dynamic self-learning knowledge graphs to provide enhanced situational awareness of criminal organisations. More info at <http://www.prevision-h2020.eu/>.

ROXANNE H2020 Action is developing a novel technology platform that combines speech, text, video, and network analysis tools to assist law enforcement officers in analysing organised crime groups and terrorist network. More info at <https://roxanne-euproject.org/>.

TRESSPASS H2020 Action The overall scope of TRESSPASS is to modernize the way the security checks at border crossing points (BCPs) are held out at land, air and sea. TRESSPASS imports the concept of “risk-based” security checks and proposes an analytic framework for modelling risk as well as a systematic approach of quantifying risk, based on a set of indicators ranging from real-time behaviour analytics to intelligent information extraction and sharing that can accurately be measured across all four tiers of the Integrated Border Management. More info at <https://www.tresspass.eu/>.

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