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Lie detector tests at airports are coming – 5th November, 2018

Level 0

Some European airports will soon use lie detector tests. They are part of an EU project called i-BorderControl. Travellers from outside the EU will take the test. Passengers will look into a webcam and answer questions. A virtual border guard will ask the questions. It will use the language the traveller speaks.

The EU said the virtual border guard will scan passengers' faces to find out if a passenger is lying. Low-risk travellers will get questions on basic information; higher-risk passengers will get more detailed questions. An expert said the lie detector might not work. He said people change their behaviour in front of a lie detector.

Level 1

European airports will soon use lie detector tests. Lie detector machines will use artificial intelligence. They are part of an EU project called i-BorderControl. The machines will be tested in Hungary, Greece and Latvia. Travellers from outside the EU will take the test. They will look into a webcam and answer questions. A computer-generated officer will ask the questions. It will look like the race of the traveller and use the traveller's language.

The EU said the virtual border guard will scan passengers' faces to find out if the passenger is lying. A human will take over if the lie-detector thinks a passenger is lying. Low-risk travellers will get questions on basic information; higher-risk passengers will get more detailed questions. A psychology expert said the system might not work. He said people change their behaviour when a lie detector asks them questions.

Level 2

Airports will soon add lie detector tests to their security procedures. Several airports in Europe will start using special lie detector machines that use artificial intelligence. The machines are part of a European Union project called i-BorderControl. The first machines will be tested this month at borders in Hungary, Greece and Latvia. Travellers from outside the European Union will take the test. They will look into a webcam and answer questions from a virtual immigration officer. The computer-generated officer will change to be the same as the race and language of the traveller.

The European Union said the virtual border guard will scan passengers' faces and analyze their expressions to find out if the passenger is lying. A human will take over if the lie-detecting software thinks a passenger is lying. Low-risk travellers will be asked about basic information, while higher-risk passengers will get more detailed questions. A psychology expert said the system might not work. He said: "If you ask people to lie, they will do it differently and show very different [behaviour] than if they truly lie....This is a known problem in psychology."

Level 3

Airports will soon add a new layer to their security procedures. Several airports in Europe will start giving lie detector tests to passengers. Special lie detector machines will use artificial intelligence to test travellers. The lie detector machines are backed by a European Union project called i-BorderControl. The first machines will be at border checkpoints in Hungary, Greece and Latvia. Airports in these countries will carry out trials on the lie detector machines this month. Travellers from outside the European Union will have to take the test. They will look into a webcam and answer questions from a computer-animated immigration official. The computer-generated animation will change to match the race and language of the traveller.

A European Union spokesperson said the virtual border guard will scan passengers' faces and analyze their micro-expressions. They will use these expressions to find out if the passenger might be lying. A human security guard will take over if the lie-detecting software detects a security risk. The procedure will initially divide passengers into two types. Low-risk travellers will be asked basic information in the lie-detection process, while higher-risk passengers will get more detailed questions. A psychology expert doubted if the system would work. He said: "If you ask people to lie, they will do it differently and show very different behavioural cues than if they truly lie....This is a known problem in psychology."

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