# British Tourists in Europe Face AI 'Lie Detector' Tests at Passport Control



#### British Tourists to Europe Could Face AI-Driven ‘Lie Detector’ Tests at Passport Control

British tourists traveling to Spain, Greece, Portugal, and other European countries may soon encounter a new AI-based ‘lie detector’ test at passport control. The European Union is considering implementing this system to enhance border security post-Brexit. The technology involves artificial intelligence software analyzing passengers’ facial expressions and body movements as they fill out application forms online or at airports and ferry ports. If the software flags behavior that suggests dishonesty or suspicious actions, the traveler may be subject to further checks by immigration officers and could potentially be denied entry.

The proposed technology, known from projects like iBorderCtrl and TRESPASS, has undergone trials between 2016 and 2021 in countries including Greece, Hungary, and Latvia. Concerns have been raised about the potential for discrimination against individuals with disabilities or anxious dispositions.

This move is part of broader changes, including the upcoming Entry-Exit System (EES) and the European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS), set to affect all British travelers starting from October 6, 2024. The initiatives have faced criticism from some civil rights groups and EU politicians, who label the technology as pseudoscience.

Patrick Breyer, a German MEP, stated, “It will discriminate against anyone who is disabled or who has an anxious personality. It will not work.” Despite criticisms, the AI-based system is expected to be gradually implemented across several European destinations, impacting holiday plans and routine travel for many.

The AI technology’s future use at EU borders underscores ongoing efforts by the European Union to adapt and modernize its immigration protocols amid evolving geopolitical landscapes.