

SMART TECHNOLOGIES FOR E-SURVEILLANCE IN FIGHT AGAINST FRAUD AND CRIME

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ABSTRACT

The paper is dealing with application of the smart technologies in the area of e-Surveillance and in this respect it is a result of so far completed and our ongoing research under the European Union funded project EU/7FP/Sec./SMART. The more information on this and other of our related EU funded projects viz. CONSENT and RESPECT can be found at our web: //erdc.fm.uniba.sk.

The main so far achieved results from our above ongoing research are the following ones..It has been evident that application of the latest smart ICT in the e-surveillance have had a very positive impact on achieving more positive results in the fight against fraud and crime on the national as well as international scales and to secure more safe environment not only in the so-called cyberspace but also in many application areas of these smart ICT. The first such area of a very positive impact has been achieved in the area of the contemporary system of the border controls and protection of the so-called Schengen external borders of the EU that have been protected by the several mutually linked and integrated systems of e-surveillance ICT technologies viz. automated vehicle tracking, unattended ground sensors, CCTV cameras, automated border checks, automated targeting systems, biometric matching systems, etc. Very similar systems have been used for the protection of the external borders also in case of all airports that have had flights to/from the destinations from the outside of the EU. The other most widely utilized application areas of these smart ICT have been various areas of public life, various cultural and other social events in the forms of so-called crowd controlling, the same also regarding phone and Internet communications, financial transactions, etc. and so forth.

However, our research has also clearly documented in addition to many positives also some negatives in application of smart technologies in the above e-surveillance and thus also in fight against fraud and crime. One of the biggest negatives in this respect has been the violation of some basic principles of the Fundamental Human Rights as they have been enshrined in whole range of the key documents of the international law like e.g. regarding the protection of personal data, privacy of life or communications, confidentiality in electronic communications, etc.

The paper will in more details present the results of our particular research regarding this very important but at the same time also a rather controversial problem area of the contemporary socio-economic life in general.