



Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Eva Gonzalez

Title: Cryptocurrencies: threats and Investigative Opportunities for law Enforcement

Programme/year: MISS/SECINTEL 2018

Author of Evaluation (supervisor/external assessor):

Criteria	Definition	Maximm	Points
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	10	9
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	30	24
	Methodology, analysis, argument	40	34
<i>Total</i>		80	67
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	10	9
	Style	5	5
	Formal requirements	5	5
<i>Total</i>		20	19
TOTAL		100	86



Evaluation

Major criteria:

This is a very well written thesis focusing on an original and extremely relevant current topic. More specifically, it looks at the issue of cryptocurrencies and the way how the related technologies might be complicated as well as provide support for the work of law enforcement agencies. It should be noted that particularly the latter topic is of an extreme interest as it remains overlooked and highly under researched within the respective community. The strengths of the thesis entail an up-to-date reflection of the cryptocurrencies landscape and threat assessment associated with these phenomena - both analyses based on relevant sets of resources. Additionally, I highly appreciate that the thesis fittingly addresses the regulatory devices comprising anti-money laundering regulation both at the European as well as US level. My critique of the thesis is twofold. First, the latter topic of blockchain technology being a source for investigation of LEAs could have been better elaborated (better explanation of how they would improve LEAs work and some empirical examples would bring more light to the issue). The thesis generally reads quite descriptively, however, the narrative is quite engaging. Overall it is a high quality thesis addressing a presently extremely relevant and novel issue area and as such should be appreciated despite minor analytical and methodological deficiencies.

Minor criteria:

OK

Overall evaluation:

Extremely interesting and strong thesis with minor inadequacies

Suggested grade: B1

Signature: