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Politically Exposed Persons (PEP) Screening: A Solution to Threats to Research Security? – *Brendan Walker-Munro*

Over the last decade, a disturbing trend has emerged. Intelligence agents – of nations both friendly and adversarial – have endorsed or participated in acts of espionage, intellectual property theft, and targeted plagiarism against universities in both the East and the West. These actions are undertaken for a variety of motivations: gaining technological supremacy, intellectual sabotage, even diplomatic pressure. In response many Western intelligence agencies have begun working closer with universities, touting the concept of “research security” – the notion of securing the knowledge, invention and innovation developed as part of the everyday functioning of universities. Within that context, this article seeks to achieve three aims. The first is to conduct an analysis of risks facing universities with a view to establishing a hypothesis that “research security” centres on the security of individual researchers. The second aim is to then consider an unlikely source of regulatory similarity with research security: the screening of Politically Exposed Persons (PEP) for anti-money laundering and counterterrorism financing. The third aim is to then propose how PEP screening could be adapted to securing the university and higher education sector. 75

Towards Legal Recognition of Decentralised Autonomous Organisations – *Aaron M Lane, Darcy WE Allen and Chris Berg*

Decentralised Autonomous Organizations (DAOs) are a typical organisation form in the Web3 economy. DAOs are internet-native organisations that are coordinated and governed by pseudonymous community members through a nexus of blockchain-based digital assets and smart contracts. There is over US\$26 billion locked in over 2,300 active DAOs globally. This article examines the legal recognition of DAOs in an Australian context. A recent Australian Senate Inquiry recommended DAOs be recognised as a distinct business structure. This article makes three contributions towards this goal: (1) critically evaluate options for DAO recognition under Australian law; (2) a comparative analysis of United States DAO laws; and (3) an analytical outline of the key design features of an Australian DAO law. 96

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