

Table of Contents

Summary	I
Overview of Research Papers	V
Table of Contents	VII
Part A. Introductory Overview of the Dissertation	IX
Figures	XI
Tables	XIII
Acronyms	XV
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Overview and Relevance of the Research Topic	1
1.2 Identification of Research Deficits	5
1.3 Deduction of Research Questions	13
1.4 Aspired Contribution	16
2 Theoretical and Conceptual Background	21
2.1 Digital Entrepreneurship in the Blockchain Ecosystem and Relevance of Individual and Crowd Support.....	21
2.2 Literature on Initial Coin Offerings (ICOs).....	24
2.3 Concepts of and Theory Behind Third-Party Support	30
2.3.1 Signaling Theory: Certification Effects of Third-Party Support	31
2.3.2 Social Network Theory: Substantive Benefits of Third-Party Support	32
2.4 Literature on Open Innovation and Co-Creation with Customers.....	34
3 Research Design	37
3.1 Data Collection	37
3.2 Sample Composition	40
3.3 Measure Overview	43

Table of Contents

3.4	Methodology	46
4	Summary of Research Papers.....	49
4.1	Summary of Research Paper I	49
4.2	Summary of Research Paper II	55
4.3	Summary of Research Paper III.....	61
5	Implications of Research.....	69
5.1	Theoretical Implications and Avenues for Further Research	69
5.2	Practical Implications	76
5.3	Outlook on ICOs	79
	References.....	81
	Part B. Research Papers.....	95
	Research Paper I.....	97
	Research Paper II	155
	Research Paper III.....	211