

Understanding the Characteristics of Pig Butchering Scams: Impact on Victims and Challenges for Law Enforcement in Indonesia

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Abstract : *The pig butchering scam mode or "Sha Zhu Pan (杀猪盘), is a form of cyber-based investment fraud that is highly manipulative and has grown rapidly in Indonesia since the COVID-19 pandemic. This scam combines elements of romance and investment fraud (hybrid romance-investment scam) by building an emotional relationship and trust of the victim through social media or dating apps, before finally exploiting them to hand over funds to fake investment platforms. This study discusses the characteristics, schemes and tactics of pig butchering fraud, as well as the impact and challenges faced by law enforcement in dealing with this crime. The case study involved three fraud schemes that occurred in Indonesia: crypto investments, fake job postings, and romance scams, with significant losses ranging from hundreds of millions to billions of rupiah. The study found that low public understanding, limited law enforcement and the complexity of transnational networks are the main obstacles in eradicating this crime. Therefore, a more adaptive legal approach and an increase in people's digital literacy are needed to mitigate the impact of pig butchering fraud crimes in Indonesia.*

Keywords : *Tourism Service Licensing, State Administrative Law, Conservation Areas*

Abstrak : Modus penipuan pig butchering atau "Sha zhu Pan (杀猪盘), merupakan bentuk penipuan investasi berbasis siber yang sangat manipulatif dan berkembang pesat di Indonesia sejak masa pandemi COVID-19. Penipuan ini memadukan unsur penipuan asmara dan investasi (hybrid romance-investment scam) dengan cara membangun hubungan-hubungan emosional dan kepercayaan korban melalui media sosial atau aplikasi kencan, sebelum akhirnya mengeksploitasi mereka untuk menyerahkan dana ke platform investasi palsu. Penelitian ini membahas karakteristik, skema dan taktik penipuan pig butchering, serta dampak dan tantangan penegak hukum yang dihadapi dalam menangani kejahatan ini. Studi kasus melibatkan tiga skema penipuan yang terjadi di Indonesia: investasi kripto, lowongan kerja palsu, dan penipuan asmara, dengan kerugian korban yang signifikan mulai dari ratusan juta hingga miliaran rupiah. Penelitian ini menemukan bahwa rendahnya pemahaman publik, keterbatasan penegak hukum dan kompleksitas jaringan transnasional menjadi hambatan utama dalam pemberantasan kejahatan ini. Oleh karena itu, diperlukan pendekatan hukum yang lebih adaptif serta peningkatan literasi digital masyarakat untuk memitigasi dampak kejahatan penipuan pig butchering di Indonesia.

Kata kunci : Penipuan Pig Butchering, Penegak Hukum, Indonesia.



I. INTRODUCTION

A new term used to describe a certain form of fraud that has just reigned in Indonesian cyberspace is the pig butchering scam mode. Pig slaughter also known as "Sha Zhu Pan" (杀猪盘), derived from the Chinese phrase, is a highly sophisticated and manipulative form of cyber-based financial fraud that has gained global traction in recent years.¹ Originating in Southeast Asia², first appearing in Indonesia during the COVID-19 Pandemic, this scam involves criminals who establish long-term relationships with victims through social media, dating apps, crypto investments and messaging platforms.³

Metaphorically it describes the process by which fraudsters "fatten" their victims like fattening a pig before slaughter by building trust and emotional relationships with the lure of being lurid for weeks or months before defrauding the victim of large sums of money.⁴ Pig butchering scams usually start with scammers contacting potential victims through social media such as Instagram, Facebook, Telegram, WhatsApp, and also dating apps or other online platforms.⁵ Pig butchering scams are said to be "hybrid scams" which are a combination of hybrid romance-investment scams. As a hybrid type of crime, the pig butchering scam mode is a complex scam because it goes beyond the usual scam structure scheme that adapts to digital connectivity for rapid development and expands its reach. Cross, Dragjewic and Richards explain that the basis of the pig butchering scam mode starts from romance fraud which lies in the ability of criminals to exploit the victim's desires in a romantic relationship, using the victim's openness to love and their desire to find someone as their main tool to cheat.⁶ This scam also has various schemes such as romance schemes, like and share schemes, crypto investment schemes and fund top up schemes. From these schemes it is an introduction to the crime of pig butchering fraud. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), in 2022, this investment-related pig butchering scam has resulted in losses of 3.31 billion US dollars.⁷ In 2023, this type of fraud accounted for 4.57 billion US dollars, an increase of 38% from the previous year.⁸ In 2024 alone, the FBI received 18,000 complaints, reporting losses of \$1.9 billion.⁹

¹ Casandra Cross, Romance Bait, Cryptorom, and Pig Slaughter: Evolutionary Steps in Romance Scams, *Rental Issues in Criminal Justice*, 2024, pp. 36(3):334-346.

² Marie-Helen Maras and Emily R Ives. Deconstructing a form of hybrid investment fraud: Examining the "pig slaughter" in the United States. *Journal of Economic Criminology*, 2024, p. 100066.

³ MN Partners, Pig Slaughter Crypto Scam Via WhatsApp & Telegram. <https://mnpartners.in/babi-penipuan-kripto-via-whatsapp-telegram/>, 2024, accessed in December 2024.

⁴ Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Public Service Announcement: FBI warns of surge in cryptocurrency investment schemes. <https://www.ic3.gov/PSA/2023/PSA230314>, 2023, accessed December 2024.

⁵ Sean Gallagher, Tempted by the Lure of Love, Pork "Mining" Scam Network Steals Millions of Dollars from Victims' Wallets, *Sophos Labs Research Report*. 2023.

⁶ Cross, C., M. Dragiewicz, and K. Richards. 2018. Understanding Romance Fraud: Insights from Domestic Violence Research. *The British Journal of Criminology* 58(6):1303–22. doi:10.1093/bjc/azy005

⁷ B.Blog, "Binance Reports a 100% rise in pig butchering scams and Shares Tips to Prevent It", <https://www.binance.com/en/blog/security/binance-reports-a-100-rise-in-pig-butchering-scams-and-shares-t601342202418225172>, 2023, accessed December 2024

⁸ N Blog, "How to Staysafe When having Conversations Online?" <https://www.ncoa.org/article/how-to-stay-safe-when-having-conversations-online/>, 2023, accessed in December 2024.

⁹ A. katersky, L. Romeo, J. Wagnon Courts, and H. Prince, "Inside Crypto Concosting Victims Billions: Losses Scam Compounds Spread Globally Abc News Investigates", <https://abc7.com/inside-crypto-concosting-victims-billions-losses-scam-compounds-spread-globally-abc-news-investigates/>

Various cases of pig butchering fraud crimes in Indonesia have been found by researchers with various schemes, including: a case with the crypto investment scheme of the victim "AA",¹⁰ a case with a fake job vacancy scheme of the defendant Shi Zhengdi,¹¹ a case with the romance scheme of the perpetrator Valentine Iheanacho.¹² Each has very complex problems for law enforcement officials in handling and tracking the crime of pig butchering fraud. In the case of the crypto investment scheme, the victim was a 35-year-old woman with the initials "AA" from Pangalengan, West Java, who was deceived through Instagram by a perpetrator named Benny, with a huge loss of 37,000 USDT or Rp. 565 million within three weeks.¹³

Furthermore, the case with the fake job vacancy scheme of the defendant Shi Zhengdi alias Colby, who is a Foreign Citizen from China, China who is included in the international wanted list (Red Notice) by Interpol has used a part-time job fraud scheme to deceive Indonesian citizens with the lure of large commissions. The victim's losses reached Rp. 1.68 billion.¹⁴

Next, the case with the romance scheme. The perpetrator named Valentine Iheanacho (VI) is a pig butchering fraud mode with a romance scam scheme. The perpetrator is a Nigerian foreigner. It started with a woman with the initials DF who was a victim of this crime. DF initially knew the perpetrator from Facebook and claimed to be from the United States. Since the introduction, communication between the perpetrator and the victim has become more intense and the perpetrator invites the victim to establish a romantic relationship by promising the victim a prize money of 30,000 US dollars to be sent to the victim's ATM, but the perpetrator gives the lure of asking for the cost of opening the blocked ATM. This caused a loss of Rp.365 million.

The rise of pig butchering fraud cases in Indonesia today shows the magnitude of financial losses and the lack of public understanding of the characteristics of this crime. Weak law enforcement is also a factor that allows this crime to continue. Therefore, this research is important to examine more deeply the characteristics, characteristics of perpetrators and challenges in efforts to overcome pig butchering in Indonesia.

II. RESEARCH METHOD

This study uses a normative jurisprudence method with an analytical descriptive approach. This approach relies on an analysis of legal theories and principles, laws and regulations, and relevant case studies. The data sources used are secondary data, consisting of primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials, including laws and regulations, legal literature, scientific journals, and interview results. All data are analyzed qualitatively and

[costing-victims-billions-losses-scam-compounds-spread-globally-abc-news-investigates/15271293/](#), 2024, accessed December 2024.

¹⁰ Galuh Putri Riyanto and Reska K. Nistanto. The Story of AA, a Pig Butchering Victim from Indonesia Who Lost Rp. 500 Million. <https://tekno.kompas.com/read/2022/10/10/14000087/kisah-aa-korban-pig-butchering-asal-indonesia-yang-rugi-rp-500-an-juta>. 2022, accessed on March 5, 2025.

¹¹ Court Decision Case Number 801/Pid.Sus/2024/PN Jkt. Pst.

¹² King Adil Siregar. Promise 30 Thousand US Dollars, Nigerian Citizen Deceives Women in Pekanbaru Rp. 365 Million. <https://www.detik.com/sumut/hukum-dan-kriminal/d-7787167/janjikan-30-ribu-dolar-as-wn-nigeria-tipu-wanita-di-pekanbaru-rp-365-juta?page=2>, accessed on March 15, 2025.

¹³ *Loc. Cit.*, Galuh Putri Riyanto and Reska K. Nistanto.

¹⁴ Supreme Court Decision Case Number 801/Pid.Sus/2024/PN Jkt. Pst.

presented in the form of a systematic scientific narrative to produce clear and targeted conclusions. The data used is qualitative data, obtained through in-depth analysis of texts that refer to secondary sources such as books, scientific articles, laws, and other sources.¹⁵

III. DISCUSSION

Characteristics of Pig Butchering Scams

The mode of fraud carried out online is basically included in the group of illegal crimes of content about the misuse of information technology. Illegal content is a crime that enters information or data that enters incorrect information or data into the internet, besides that the information presented is also unethical and considered unlawful or disturbing public order.¹⁶ According to Bruce D. Mandelblit, the mode of online fraud refers to a type of fraud that uses internet media such as chat rooms, electronic messages or websites in conducting fraudulent transactions with financial institutions such as banks or other institutions with certain relationships.¹⁷

Pig butchering fraud is one of the crimes of the online fraud mode that is rampant lately in Indonesia. Pig butchering scams have significant differences compared to regular scams, although both aim to take the victim's property, but pig butchering scams use more complex, planned and manipulative methods so that they are often more difficult for victims to recognize. The following are the characteristics of pig butchering scams:

a. Characteristics of Pig Butchering Scam

This characteristic will be the difference between pig butchering scams and scams in general. The following researcher will briefly explain the characteristics of pig butchering fraud, namely:

- 1) Hybrid Fraud : A combination of romance scam and investment fraud. The perpetrator builds an emotional relationship and then tricks the victim into investing.¹⁸
- 2) Transnational and Organized: Carried out by cross-border (Southeast Asian) syndicates, sometimes involving human trafficking as a fraud operator.¹⁹
- 3) Advanced Technology: Using fake apps, deepfakes, voice clone, blockchain and crypto, number spoofing, and encryption to hide identities and funds.²⁰

¹⁵ Fariz Muhammad Iqbal, "Legal Analysis of the Protection and Legal Certainty of Electronic Land Certificates as an Instrument of Land Reform in Indonesia." *KRTHA Bhayangkara* 19, no. 1 (April 2025): 176–87.

¹⁶ Sigid Suseno, *Jurisdiction of Cybercrime*, (Bandung: Refika Aditama), 2012, p. 172

¹⁷ Noor Rahmad, *Legal Study on Online Fraud Crimes*, *Journal of Sharia Economic Law*, Vol 3, No. 2, 2019

¹⁸ Maras and Ives, *Deconstructing a Form of Hybrid Investment Fraud: Examining 'Pig Butchering' in the United States*, USA: *Journal of Economic Criminology*, Vol. 5 No. 100066, 2024.

¹⁹ Hai Thanh Luong and Hieu Minh Ngo, *Understanding the Nature of the Transnational Scam-Related Fraud: Challenges and Solutions from Vietnam's Perspective*, *MDPI Laws*, Vol. 13, Issue 6, No. 10.330/Laws 13060070, 2024, <https://doi.org/10.3390/laws13060070>.

²⁰ Bhupendra Acharya and Thorsten Holz, *An Explorative Study of Pig Butchering Scams*, Cornell University, arXiv:2412.15423v1 [cs. CR] 19 Dec 2024, <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2412.15423>

- 4) Intense Psychological Exploitation: the perpetrator builds emotional closeness and performs long-term manipulation (weeks/months) to gain the victim's trust.²¹
- 5) Target Vulnerable and Asset Victims: The target of a pig butchering scam is someone who is lonely, has large wealth and funds, or is easy to influence. The data is also obtained from social media or breach data.
- 6) Low Reporting Rate: Victims often do not report to law enforcement authorities because they are embarrassed or unaware that they have been deceived, and find it difficult to enforce the law.

From these characteristics, if we go back to the case that the researcher has explained in the introduction, it is very clear that every crime of pig butchering fraud committed by perpetrators or syndicates is in accordance with its characteristics.

b. Characteristics That Perpetrators Use to Commit Pig Butchering Scams

Basically, the crime of pig butchering fraud has the characteristics and tactics used by the perpetrator in committing the crime of pig butchering fraud to potential perpetrators. The characteristics that perpetrators use in pig butchering scams are:

- 1) Criminal syndicates use fake identities

So complex is this pig butchering scam, being differentiated from fraud in general, the perpetrators of pig butchering fraud have usually devised multi-layered forms of crime to manipulate and convince the hearts of potential victims in a more structured way. Therefore, the criminal syndicate of these perpetrators is more professional and displays quite interesting profiles. The perpetrator used a fake identity before committing his actions using a fake name and photo.²²

- 2) Job sharing via social media

In committing pig butchering fraud, there is a clear division of labor among groups or syndicates. Starting from the preparation stage before the fraud occurred to the illegal transfer and laundering of funds after the pig butchering scam occurred. All stages involve teamwork and division of labor using various social media such as WhatsApp, Instagram, Facebook or dating apps. In the case of pig butchering fraud by doubling money, there is a team with an internal division of labor that has been prepared. The perpetrators have set internal labor distribution rules that have been prepared. The perpetrators have established rules for the division of labor in their work and have a fairly controlled fraud process, mainly covering the categories of "materials", "technology", "speaking skills", and "money laundering".²³

- 3) Building trust after getting to know each other

The perpetrator usually has a more in-depth conversation to build trust with the victim. Perpetrators of pig butchering scams use social media to identify potential

²¹ M. Syafriza Aib and Sukiati, Crime of Fraud (Pig Butchering Scam) Through Social Media in the Perspective of Islamic Criminal Law, *Journal of Legal and Government Equity* (2024), Vol. 4 No. 2, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.55637/elg.4.2.10013.231-237>

²² Liang, L. Countermeasures Against Telecommunication Network Fraud Cases in the New Era. China: Criminal Police. 2020. p. 25-28.

²³ Yuewen, W. Investigation Strategies and Critical Points in Evidence Collection in the New Era for Online Financial Management Fraud Cases. *Sichuan Police College Journal*, 2019. Thing. 18-26.

victims. The scammer tries to build trust in the potential victim through online interactions, inviting him or her to have a deep emotional connection before directing the potential victim to an illegal investment platform that can ultimately trick the potential victim into financial loss.²⁴

4) Invite financial investment

At this stage, the perpetrator has succeeded in building the victim's trust then the perpetrator tries to make the victim invest in crypto investment media, business platforms, and banks illegally with the lure of big profits. The perpetrator will explain to the victim to initiate a profitable investment opportunity in virtual currency and direct the victim to use an illegal investment website that has been designed to look completely legitimate, controlled or manipulated by the fraudster.

5) Long-term

Dont waste your time in the trap of pig butchering scams that take a very long time because after selecting and monitoring the victims, the perpetrator has to persuade the victim step by step, lure them into the trap and deceive them after gaining the trust and wealth of the victim.²⁵

The Impact of Victims and Law Enforcement Challenges in Overcoming Pig Butchering Fraud Crimes in Indonesia

In Indonesia, victims of pig butchering scams have to accept the consequences that they have to suffer huge financial losses, emotional turmoil and are often underestimated when filing a report to law enforcement. According to the report of Mr. Penda Tk. 1 Muhammad Naim, S. IP., M.H., as a legal counselor at the Directorate of Crime and Cyber of the Criminal Investigation Agency of the National Police of the Republic of Indonesia, the impact of financial losses on victims was very severe and lasted for a very long time. Based on the case that is currently being processed at the Criminal Investigation Branch of the National Police, the financial losses experienced by the victims reached Rp. 300 million to Rp. 500 million,²⁶ even out there there are still many victims who suffered losses more than the nominal above but did not dare and were embarrassed to report the incident to the law enforcement authorities. There are so many victims who have debts or even plunged into the world of online loans to meet the demands of the perpetrators. The large number of victims who owe or borrow money from other parties has the potential to be due to the presence of the crime of pig butchering fraud in their lives. He continued, the impact of emotional chaos is also very large on the victims. The feelings of anger, emotional distress and mental health of the victims become chaotic. Many victims are diagnosed by psychiatrists or psychologists with mental conditions such as depression, trauma, paranoia, and anxiety. Then the victim is disappointed in himself and blames himself for not realizing that he is trapped in a crime

²⁴ Pan, W et al., A Study on Telecommunication Fraud Crime Cases: A Case Study of Pig Butchering Scam Fraud. Legal System Review. 2020. p. 17-21.

²⁵ Yu, L. – W. Pig Butchering Fraud Crimes in the Securities Market and Legal Regulations. (Canada: Legal Science: Clausius Scientific Press, 2023), p. 44

²⁶ Interview with Penda Tk. 1 Muhammad Naim, S. IP., M.H., as a Legal Extension Officer at the Criminal Investigation Directorate of the National Police.

of fraud and the loss of trust of the victim in others because the betrayal given by the perpetrator greatly affects the victim to be able to trust people again.

The fact on the ground, in seeking help from Indonesian law enforcement, especially the police, many victims also experience disappointment because the assistance is limited from the authorities often say that there is not much the police can do in tracking the perpetrators, because it is likely that the perpetrators are abroad and use methods that cannot be tracked by anyone, so many complaints from victims stop until the reporting stage.

Law enforcement, especially police investigators state that pig butchering scams are categorized as complex legal issues, due to several challenges that law enforcement faces in dealing with cases like this, especially since pig butchering scams involve advanced technology, international networks and psychological manipulation that make the perpetrators difficult to track. The main challenges for law enforcement that make this case a complex legal issue are:²⁷

1. Anonymity and International Networking

The perpetrators of pig butchering scams are often part of international syndicates operating from abroad. They use servers, digital platforms, and bank accounts located in various countries, making them difficult to track by police investigators in Indonesia. After that, the existence of perpetrators outside the jurisdiction of Indonesian law makes law enforcement require cooperation which can take time and a long process.

2. Use of Advanced Technology

Actors typically use technologies such as Virtual Private Networks (VPNs), fake identities, encrypted messaging apps and fake investment platforms designed to make tracking difficult. Many victims are unaware that they are using fake platforms, making it difficult for investigators to obtain strong digital evidence.

3. Regulatory Gap in Indonesia

Regulations related to technology-based investments, such as crypto, are not yet fully mature in Indonesia. Although the Futures Trading Supervisory Agency (Bappepti) has regulated crypto asset trading, many fake investment media are not registered but can still be accessed by the public. Investigators are often limited to local actors, while Indonesian authorities have limitations in cracking down on digital platforms that are not registered and operate abroad.

4. Difficulty in Identifying Perpetrators

Perpetrators often use fake identities, either in communication with victims or in creating fake investment platforms, must proof of money transfer be traceable, perpetrators usually use bank accounts or digital wallets that are not registered with their real names, thus complicating tracking.

²⁷ Dana Lawrence and Lourdes Miranda, *Global Perspective & Insights Fraud (USA: The Institute of Internal Auditors, 2023)*, P. 4-7

According to the report of Brigadier Maulana Hasanudin, S. Pd., M.M as the Unit Officer (Banit) II Sub-Directorate II of the Directorate of Cyber Investigation of the Regional Police (Polda) West Java, there are several aspects that make the crime of pig butchering fraud difficult to handle, namely:²⁸

1. Lack of Regulatory and Legal Readiness

Regarding regulations and legal rules in Indonesia's positive law, pig butchering fraud has actually not been specifically regulated in the law, but Indonesian investigators stated that, until now, pig butchering fraud is included in fraudulent actions that can be subject to Article 378 of the Criminal Code (KUHP) concerning Fraud and article 28 paragraph (1) concerning Consumer Losses in Law Number 11 of 2008 concerning Information and Electronic Transactions (ITE Law). Although the elements of the two articles do not describe in detail the crimes of pig butchering fraud, the legal umbrella currently used to deal with pig butchering fraud cases is the main two articles. Article 378 of the Criminal Code on fraud, reads:²⁹

"Whoever with the intention to benefit himself or others unlawfully, by using a false name or false dignity, by deception, or a series of lies, moves another person to hand over goods to him or to give a debt or write off receivables, is threatened with fraud with a maximum prison sentence of 4 years".

This article can be used as a rule for this fraud even if it is used for conventional or general fraud, because pig butchering fraud is included in cybercrime. In the rules, cyber is divided into two types of computer crime and related crime. Pig butchering fraud is included in related crime because the perpetrator's means to commit the crime are human beings and the modus operandi of the perpetrator is entirely carried out on illegal computers or devices.

Then, Article 28 paragraph (1) concerning Consumer Losses in Electronic Transactions is also imposed in Law Number 11 of 2008 concerning Information, Transactions and Electronics (UU ITE) which reads:³⁰

"Everyone deliberately and without the right to spread false and misleading news that results in consumer losses in electronic transactions", for the criminal sanction is contained in Article 45 paragraph 2 of the ITE Law,³¹ "Every person who meets the elements as referred to in Article 28 paragraph (1) and paragraph (2) shall be sentenced to a maximum of 6 years in prison or a maximum fine of Rp. 1,000,000,000.00 (one billion rupiah)"

The imposition of Article 28 paragraph (1) of the ITE Law against pig butchering fraud, because in the crime, the perpetrator spreads false information that is economically detrimental and data manipulation. However, it would be good to have a special law for this crime so that it can be handled to the maximum.

²⁸ Interview with Brigadier Maulana Hasanudin, S. Pd., M.M as Unit Officer (Banit) II Sub-Directorate II of the Directorate of Cyber Investigation of the Regional Police (Polda) West Java

²⁹ Article 378 of the Criminal Code on Fraud

³⁰ Article 28 paragraph (1) concerning Consumer Losses in Electronic Transactions Law Number 11 Than 2008 concerning Information, Transactions and Electronics

³¹ Article 45 paragraph (2) concerning the imposition of criminal sanctions in Article 28 paragraph (1) of the ITE Law Law Number 11 of 2008 Information, Transactions and Electronics.

2. Capacity of Law Enforcement Officers

Handling cybercrimes such as pig butchering fraud basically requires technical expertise in the fields of technology, information and digital forensics. However, not all regions or police units have adequate resources to handle these cases. Training and capacity building of law enforcement officers, especially police investigators, are still an important need.

3. Limitations of International Cooperation

In some cases, the countries where the perpetrator operates do not have strong cooperation agreements including pig butchering scams. Thus, it makes it difficult to extradite the perpetrator or the disclosure of the perpetrator's account. Until now, assistance has only come from Interpol Indonesia in collaboration with related countries. There is a need for diplomacy to strengthen international cooperation, especially with countries where syndicates operate.

4. Victim Handler

Many victims lost all their possessions due to this scam. Unfortunately, legal processes often focus on arresting perpetrators only, while efforts to recover victims' losses (restitution) are still minimal. Therefore, there is a need for a good mechanism to assist victims, both legally, financially and psychologically.

IV. CONCLUSION

Pig Butchering scams are a very complex and detrimental form of hybrid cybercrime. This scam combines romance scams and illegal investments with high-tech-based manipulative tactics. This mode has grown rapidly in Indonesia since the COVID-19 pandemic, with huge losses to victims, both financially and psychologically. These crimes are carried out by international syndicates with an organized work structure, utilizing fake identities, social media, investment platforms, dating apps to build trust before exploiting victims. Law enforcement in Indonesia also has challenges in dealing with this fraud, such as limited regulations, lack of capacity of the authorities, difficulty in cross-border tracking, and lack of public awareness of the characteristics of this crime. Therefore, comprehensive efforts are needed both in terms of law reform, law enforcement capacity, strengthening international cooperation, and educating and providing information to the public to prevent and eradicate pig butchering fraud in Indonesia.

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