

Prof Dr Ronny Vollandt  
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## Steinschneider 2.0: A New Digital Handbook of Judaeo-Arabic Literature

**Prof Dr Ronny Vollandt** is Professor of Judaic Studies at Ludwig Maximilians University of Munich and Director of the Munich Centre for Jewish–Arabic Cultures. His teaching centres on rabbinic Judaism and the intellectual history of Jewish communities in the Islamic world. His research spans Arabic versions of the Bible, Judaeo-Arabic literature, and Jewish cultural heritage, with a particular emphasis on manuscript traditions from the Near East. He is the author of *Arabic Versions of the Pentateuch: A Comparative Study of Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Sources* (Brill, 2015), which was awarded the Boehlig Prize in 2017. In addition, he co-directs several major research projects devoted to Jewish book culture, Judaeo-Arabic literature, and Arabic translations of the Bible.

**Abstract:** Research on Judaeo-Arabic literature began in the nineteenth century with scholars of the *Wissenschaft des Judentums*, who envisioned a medieval “golden age” of Jewish–Islamic intellectual entanglement. Moritz Steinschneider laid the foundations through his monumental *Arabische Literatur der Juden* (1902), a comprehensive bibliographical survey that remains seminal. Early critics already stressed the importance of newly discovered sources such as the Cairo Genizah. After decades of relative neglect, the field was revitalized from the late twentieth century onward by unprecedented manuscript accessibility and renewed academic and cultural interest, particularly in Israel and the broader Mediterranean world. This lecture proposes a new history of scholarship by re-evaluating its sources, methods, and underlying narratives.

**Week 8, Wednesday, 11 March 2026**

**6pm (UK time)**

Online via Zoom and in person at the

Catherine Lewis Lecture Theatre,

Clarendon Institute, Walton Street, Oxford OX1 2HG

Followed by a drinks' reception

In order to participate in this lecture via Zoom, please register at this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/pmQrF77CR46nwic-xS0l3Q>

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