

# Multilingualism in Ibero-America Scholarly Publishing. Translation, Regions and Languages

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Cartography of Academic Publishing in Ibero-America Study Group

# Brief outline of my talk

- The study group on academic publishing in Ibero-America
- Multilingualism in Ibero-America. Representative countries
- The case of Mexico. Why there are many languages, but few records
- Some problems to solve

#### The group

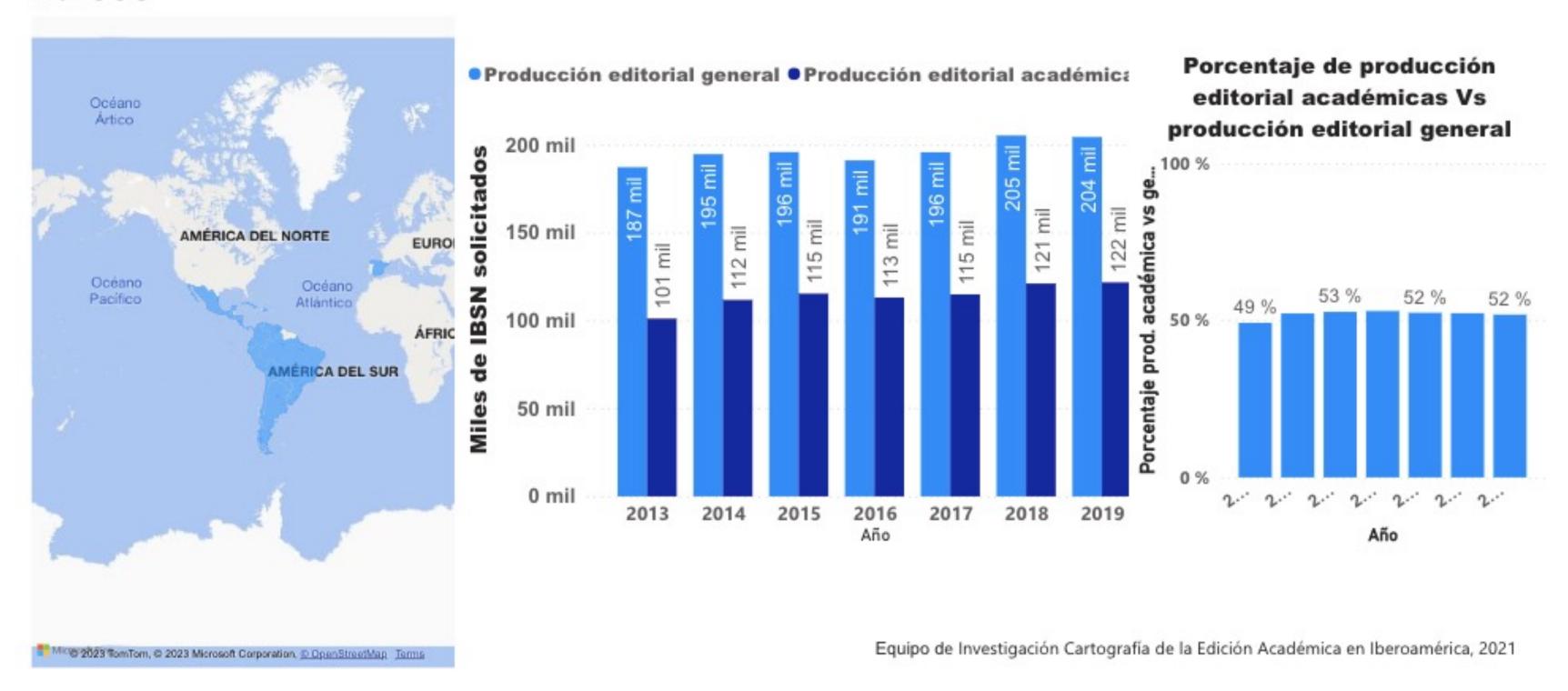
### A cartography of the Ibero-American academic edition

- ISBN database 2013-2019
- 17 countries in Ibero-America, and Spain and Portugal
- Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay and Venezuela.
- We exclude several subjects to determine which publications are academic

#### Producción editorial general vs producción académica

Este gráfico muestra las cifras globales de la región de libros en general frente al académico. Al señalar un país se muestra la misma información del país seleccionado.

#### **Países**

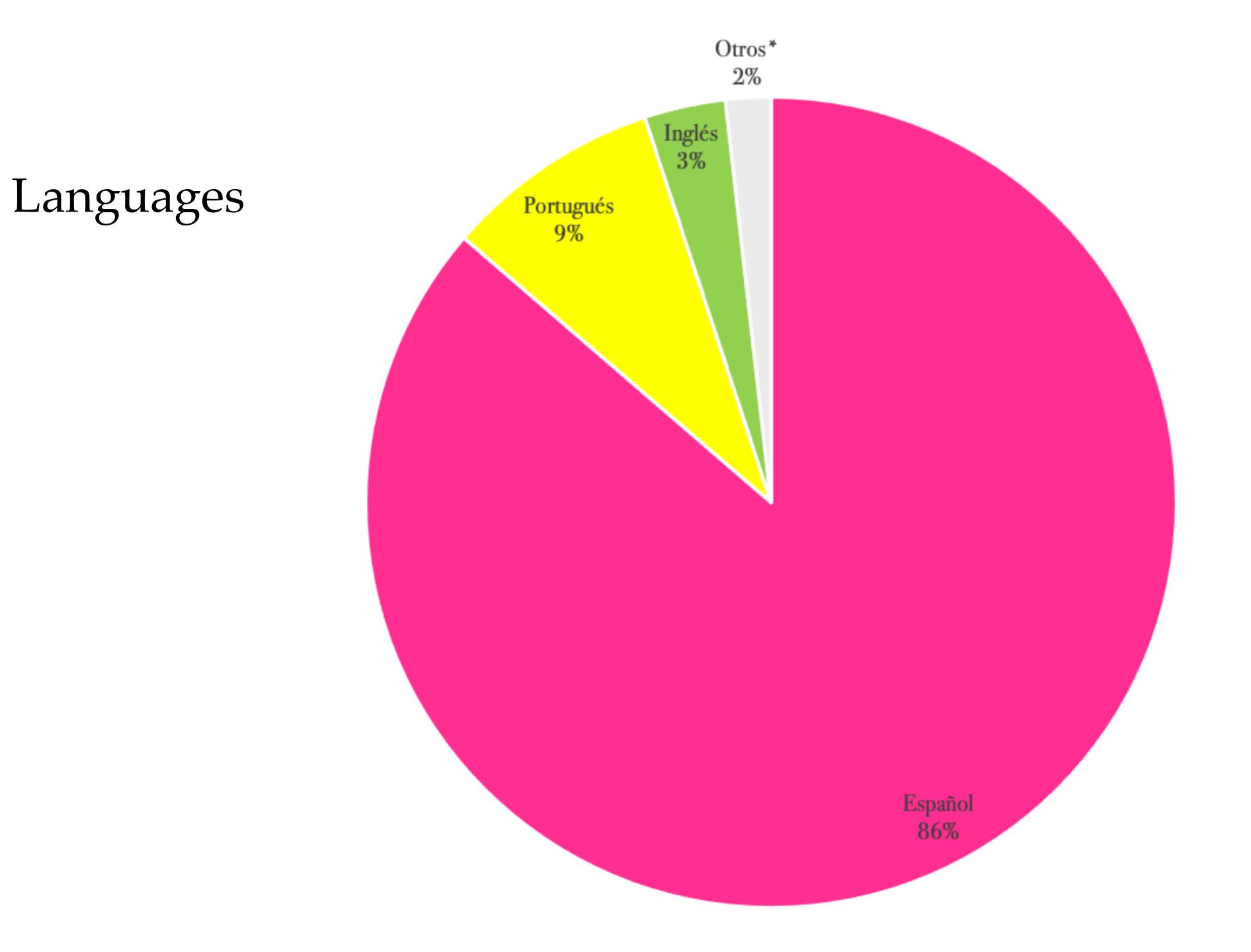




https://editorial.urosario.edu.co/cartografia-edicion-academica

### The languages

- According to UNESCO, nearly 7 000 languages are spoken in the world.
   6 700 are indigenous languages, of which 2 680, or 38%, are at risk of disappearing
- 95% are indigenous languages
- In Ibero-America 420 languages are spoken
- The catalog of Mexico's indigenous languages indicates that 68 are currently spoken.



# Academic books in regional languages, monolingual or bilingual in some representative countries (2013-2019)

Country	Titles in regional languages	%	Titles in other languages (e.g. English, German, French)	%	Total book production (7 years)
Guatemala	305	8.1	61	1.6	3 773
Paraguay	90	3.3	69	2.6	2 686
Bolivia	42	1.6	72	2.7	2 676
México	435	0.4	1 408	1.2	117 911
Peru	73	0.4	610	3.6	17 167
Colombia	76	0.1	2 423	3.9	62 221

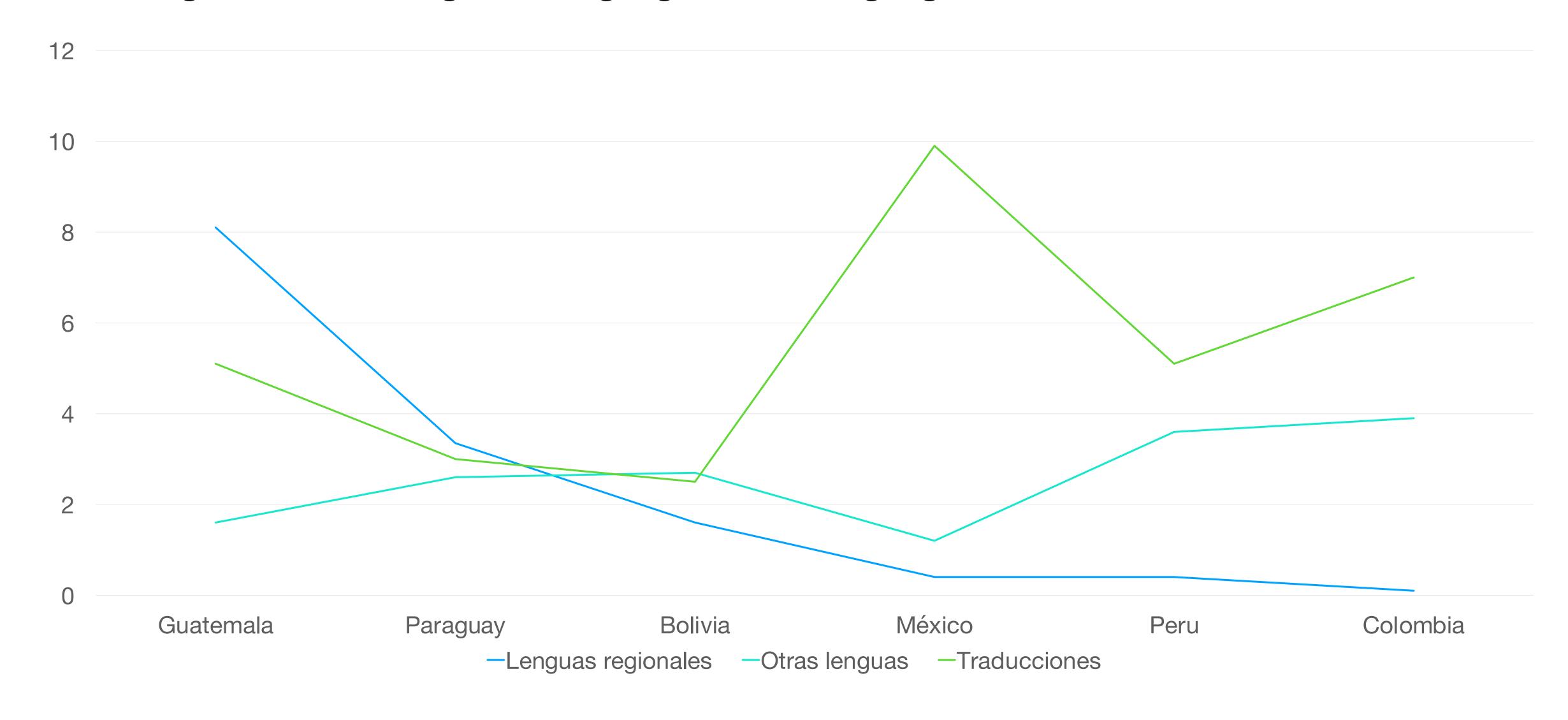
Data: Cartografía de la edición académica en Iberoamérica.

# What percentage of Mexican academic books are translated?

8%

# English, French, Nahuatl, German

#### Percentage of books in regional languages, other languages and translations



### Indigenous languages used in books

Achi, acholi, achuar, akateko, awa, awakateko, aymara, ayoreo, bora, bribi, cabecar, ch'orti, chalchiteko, chimila, chuj, creol, criolo, ese ejja, garifuna, guaraní, gwarayu, itza, ixil, k'iche, kaingang, kanamari, kaqchikel, kawesqar, mam, mapudungun, nahuatl, nasa yuwe, papiamento, pemon, piapoco, piaroa, poqomam, q'anjo'al, q'eqchi, quechua, rapa nui, sakapulteco, shuar, sikuani, sipakapense, tektiteko, tz'utujil, uitoto, uspanteko, wayuunaiki, yanomami, yuracare.

But...

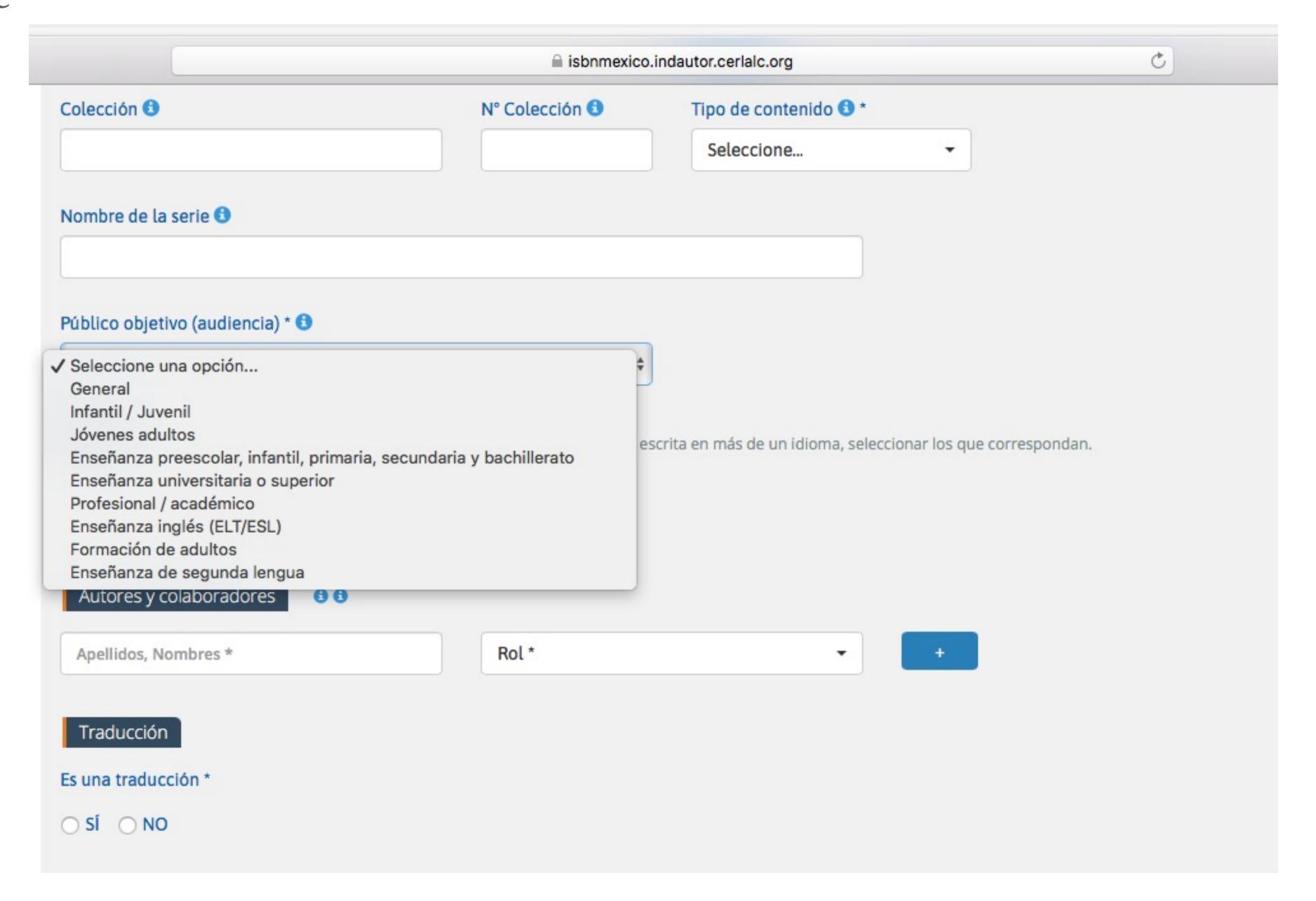
- If in Ibero-America 420 languages are spoken, what happens with the rest?
- A few has problems with transcription
- Some have very few speakers and are not reading their language
- And...

## What makes languages invisible?

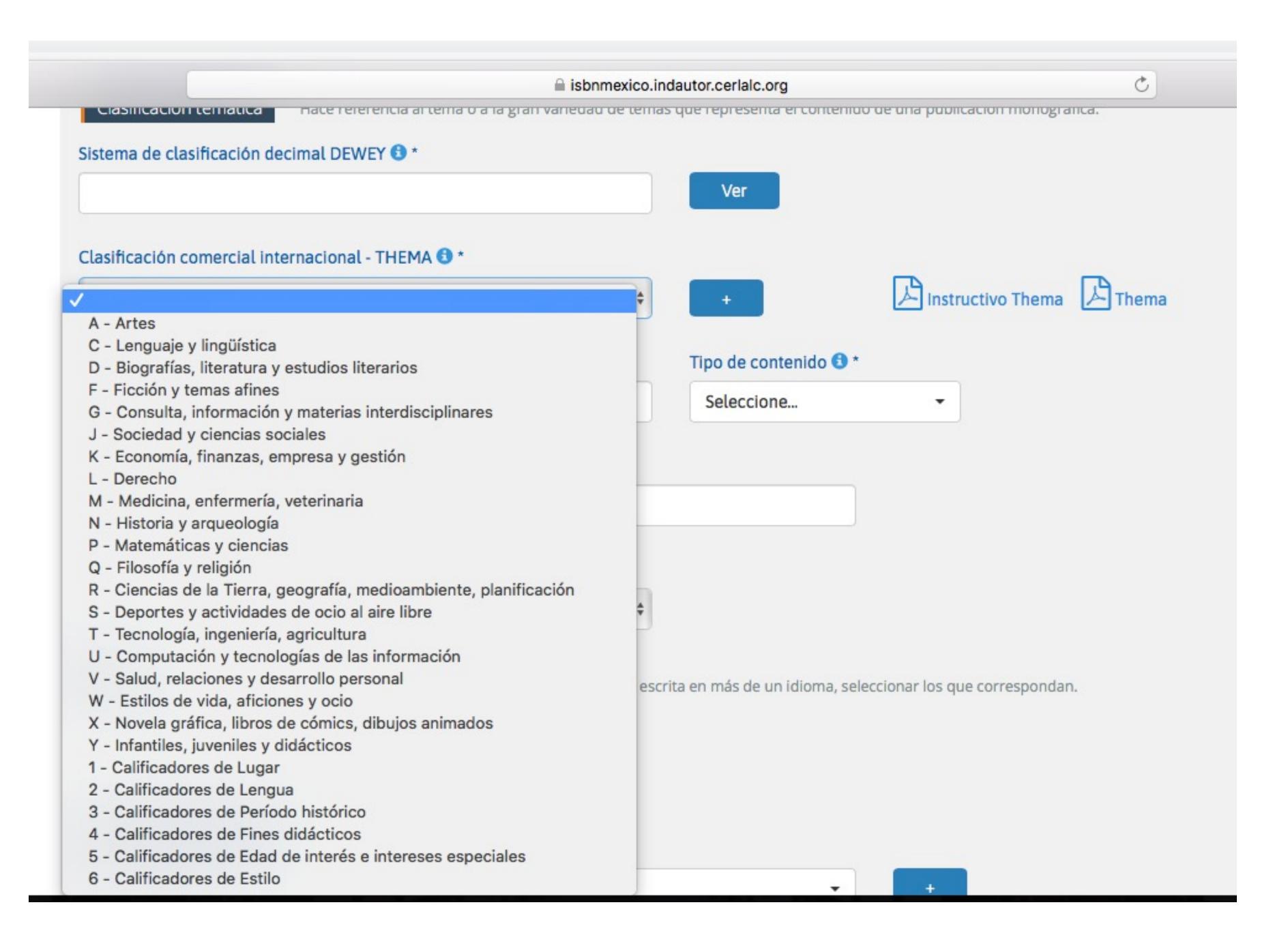


- 17 countries in Ibero-America share the same platform ISBN
- Provided by the Regional Center for the Promotion of Books in Latin America and the Caribbean (Cerlalc); UNESCO-funded agency based in Bogota
- In the Mexican case, the responsible authorities declare themselves unable to make changes to the platform

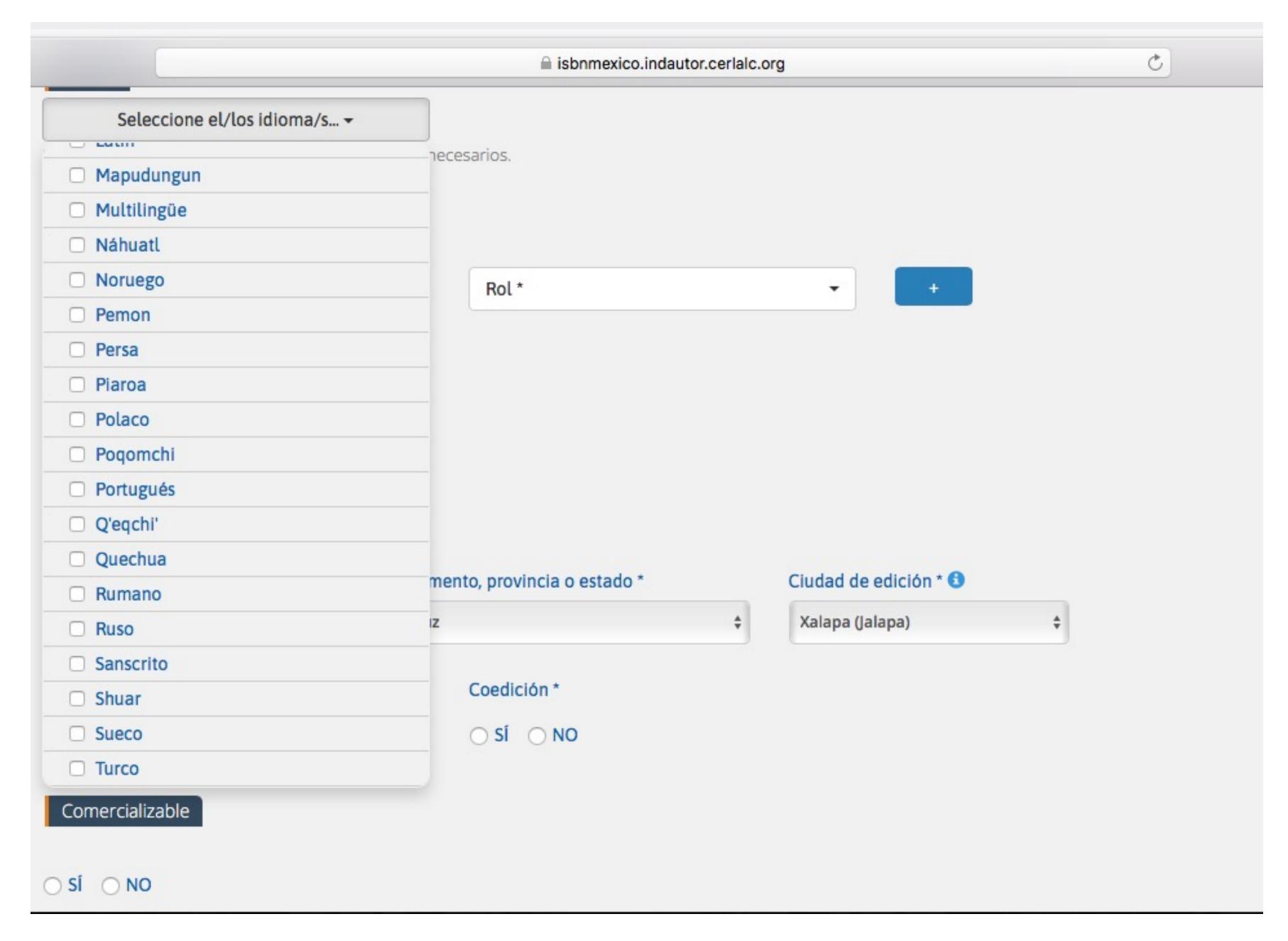
#### The case



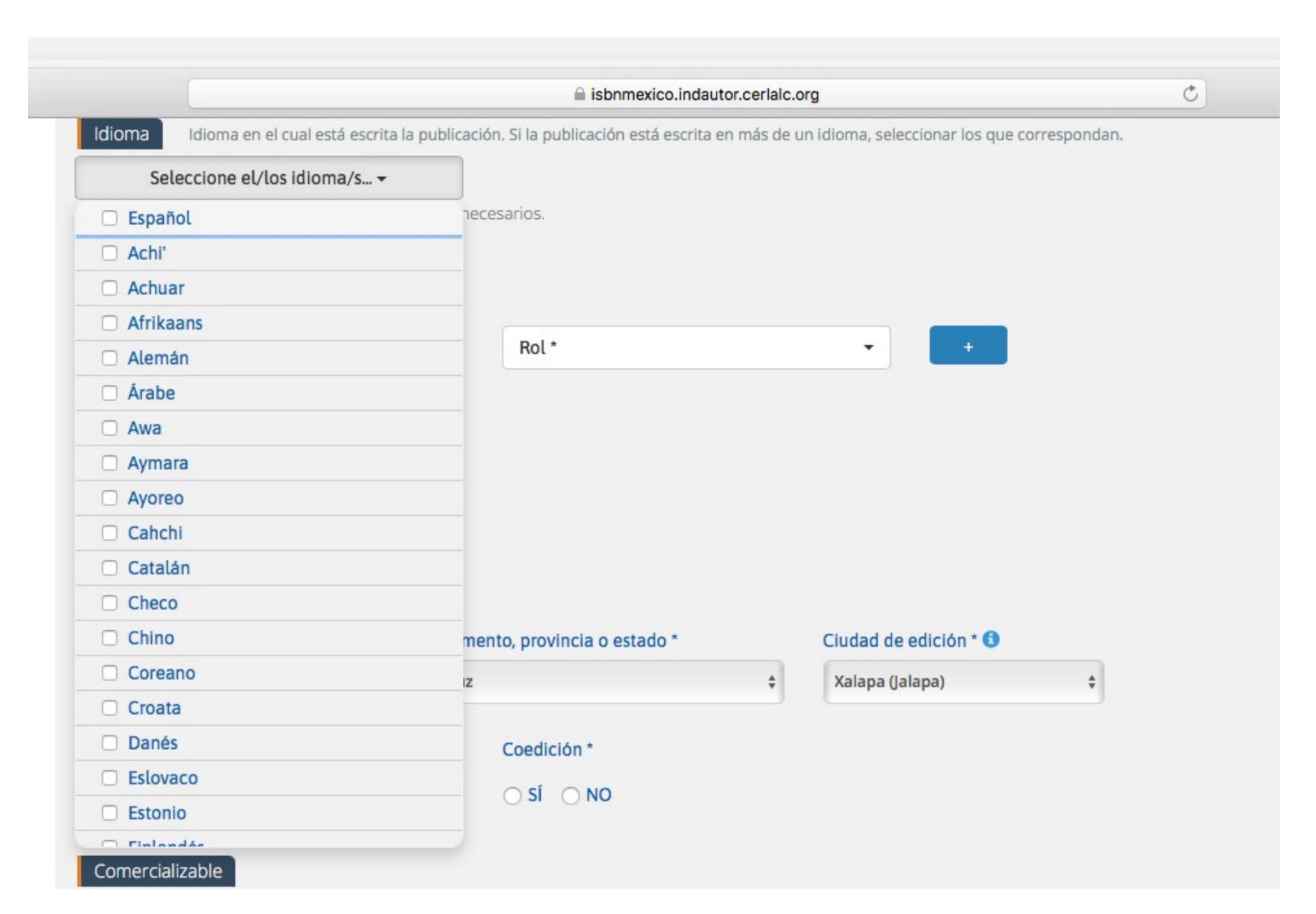
Screenshot of the ISBN registration platform



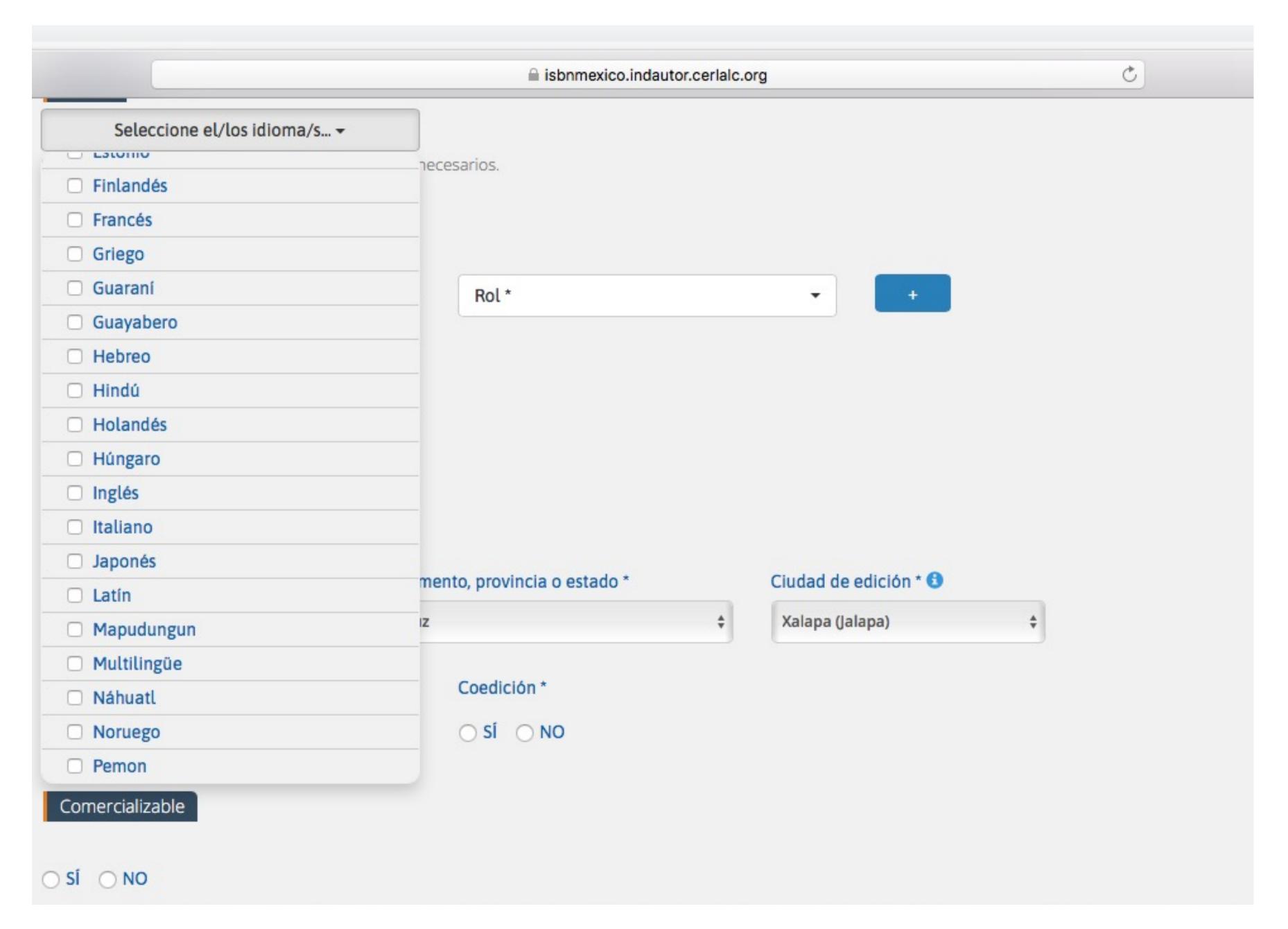
Screenshot of the ISBN registration platform



Screenshot of all the languages available on the ISBN registration platform



Screenshot of all the languages available on the ISBN registration platform



Screenshot of all the languages available on the ISBN registration platform

## Simple solution:

Include the catalog of indigenous languages by country

### Thank you for your time

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#### Cartography of the Ibero-American Academic Edition is possible thanks to



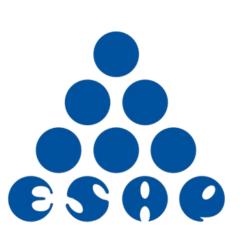












#### With the support







