**Director of the school – Michailo Yatsyshyn**, Doctor of Law, Full Professor at the Lesya Ukrainka Eastern European National University; Head of the Department of the Theory and History of State and Law Department, editor-in-chief of the scientific publication “Legal History Gazette: Scientific Journal” (Lutsk, Lesya Ukrainka Eastern European National University). Dr. Yatsyshyn is a member of two academic councils (26.007.04 and 26.007.01) for the defence of Ph.D. (kandydat-level and doctoral) theses, and a member of the International Association of Legal Historians.

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**Areas of scientific research:**
- problems of the formation and functioning of the penitentiary system of Ukraine;
- peculiarities of philosophical and legal approaches to crime and punishment;
- comparative research in the field of the functioning of penitentiary systems around the world;
- the development of some specific state legal systems.

**Scientific output of M. Yatsyshyn.** More than 120 research works have been published, including 4 monographs, 4 manuals, educational programmes and more than 80 articles.

**Research supervision of the following Ph.D. theses:**

**Summary.** The evolution of the processes and functioning mechanisms of the Ukrainian penal system is studied. At various stages of Ukraine’s existence, government authorities, local communities and society in general took specific positions toward crime and punishment which were largely a function of the linkage of individuals to the church, and of the church to the state. It is confirmed that the Ukrainian legal tradition in relation to crime and punishment was developed and put into operation principally under the influence of the western world and basically had a humane attitude with respect to criminals and punishment.

**Scientific activity of the school:**
- Historico-Legal Foundations of the Penal Policy of Ukraine: a monograph and a doctoral thesis by M. Yatsyshyn;
- Criminal Executive Code of Ukraine: A Scientific and Practical Commentary by V. Kovalenko and A. Stepaniuk (with collective editorship);
- the penitentiary system and penitentiary law of Ukraine in the Encyclopaedia of penitentiary law / by R. Romashov, editorship (Samara : Samara Institute of Law of Russia FSIN, 2013);
- Ph. D. theses by O. Andrushchak, P. Glamazda, and I. Oksenchuk;
- Approval of topics and substantiation of data for Ph.D. theses by I. Levchuk, by K. Lemishchak, by K. Prokopchuk, by O. Kirillo, by T. V. Pashchuk;
– Substantiating work for doctoral theses by Y. Krysiuk and S. Savych;
– a number of articles and academic reports published in specialized journals and the materials for various conferences at a number of levels.

**Members of the School**

Olena Andrushchak, Ph. D. in Law, Chief Specialist, legal consultant, attorney in the Department of Health Protection of Lutsk city council.

*Areas of scientific research:* analysis of corrective labour law and legislation of the USSR and Ukraine in the second half of the twentieth century.

Petro Glamazda, Ph. D. in Law, Associate Professor in the Department of the Theory and History of State and Law at Lesya Ukrainka Eastern European National University.

*Areas of scientific research:* analysis of the formation and development of the penal system of the Ukrainian state of Hetman Pavlo Skoropadsky (April – December 1918),
– determining the patterns and peculiarities of the legal and regulatory framework in this period.

Ihor Oksenchuk, Ph. D. in Law, Head of the Main Department of Justice in the Volyn Region (2010–2013).

*Areas of scientific research:* Analysis of the historical and legal principles of the legal consolidation of the penal system functioning in modern Ukraine, and the formulation of approaches for improving it.

Igor Levchuk, postgraduate student in the Department of the Theory and History of State and Law at Lesya Ukrainka Eastern European National University.

*Area of scientific research:* legal aspects of the organization and operation of prisons in the Volyn governorate from the end of the 18th century to the beginning of the 20th century.

Kateryna Lemishchak, postgraduate student in the Department of the Theory and History of State and Law at Lesya Ukrainka Eastern European National University.

*Area of scientific research:* crime and punishment as attributes of the process of culture and civilization.

Katerina Prokopchuk, postgraduate student in the Department of the Theory and History of State and Law at Lesya Ukrainka Eastern European National University.

*Areas of scientific research:* historical and legal foundations for the formation and development of Ukrainian-Polish trade and economic cooperation.

Olga Kyrylo, postgraduate student in Department of the Theory and History of State and Law at Lesya Ukrainka Eastern European National University.

*Areas of scientific research:* the establishment and development of the penal system in Ukraine in the first half of the twentieth century (law-oriented historical research).

Taras Pashchuk, postgraduate student in the Department of the Theory and History of State and Law at Lesya Ukrainka Eastern European National University.

*Areas of scientific research:* the historical and legal foundation of the penal system in Ukraine (based on the source material relative to the Volyn, Rivne and Lviv regions).

Yuri Krysyuk, Ph. D. in Law, Associate Professor in the Department of the Theory and History of State and Law at the Lesya Ukrainka Eastern European National University.

*Area of scientific research:* crime and punishment as attributes of the process of culture and civilization.

Serhii Savych, Ph. D. in Law, Associate Professor, Head of the Law Department at the Lutsk Institute of Human Development of the University “Ukraine”.

*Area of scientific research:* establishment and development of copyright law relations in Ukraine (historical and legal research).